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Borough of Bedford



Health of the Community

1972

BOROUGH OF BEDFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH

IN BEDFORD

1972

BY

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M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H. M.F.C.M.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

together with the Report of

E.J. CONSTABLE

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CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FLUORIDATION The Bedfordshire Water Board introduced fluoride into the local water supply in October 1972.

The Bedford Town Council on the recommendation of its Health Committee over the last ten years expressed support for the fluoridation of the water supply. This had to be deferred, however, because the consent of all local authorities within the Bedfordshire area covered by the Water Board has only now been obtained.

With the introduction of fluoridation of Bedford's water supply, we begin a new phase of dental health and it will be interesting to observe the expected reduction in caries in children's teeth.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE The percentage of confinements at home continues to drop - indeed in 1972, only 13.3% of all births were in the mother's own home. The opening of the general practitioner unit at Bedford General Hospital North Wing (page 28) will, I expect, further reduce the number of home confinements.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY Under this scheme whereby all women who have had a smear test undertaken 5 years previously are offered an appointment for a further test, 92 women were offered such an appointment. Of these 50% accepted. It is for us to decide what extra proportion of our resources should be expended on this particular area of preventive medicine.

SMOKING Cigarette smoking continues to be the largest single avoidable cause of premature death.

The dangers to health are now widely understood and in February 1973 a campaign was held in the Borough to reinforce this awareness.

In 1972, lung cancer, bronchitis and heart disease together accounted for no less than 78 deaths in the Borough under the age of 65 years.

These are avoidable deaths.

IMMIGRANT HEALTH During the year, following the identification of rickets, a two pronged approach to combat this deficiency disease was initiated. First, mothers were encouraged to give their young children Vitamin D preparations as a supplement to their diet, and second, all children thought to be at risk were screened at the age of 18 months.

Undoubtedly the institution of measures to ensure adequacy of diet should prevent further cases of rickets but a screening test to detect actual cases would be a useful line of defence where there are children at possible risk.

HEALTH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

Putnoe During the year negotiations were completed for the purchase by the Local Health Authority of the group surgery at Putnoe, and in combination with the adjoining clinic, the complex has been accepted as a Health Centre.

St.Peter's Consideration was given to possible sites for the proposed Health Centre in the St.Peter's area but the finding of a suitable site providing adequate car parking, is proving to be an inordinately difficult task.

Fenlake Once the site on London Road, earmarked for the Health Centre is in the possession of the Local Health Authority, I expect the scheme to provide a Health Centre to replace Barford Avenue Clinic to progress rapidly.

Queen's Park Experience in the use of the Health Centre at Queen's Park has revealed that car park facilities are insufficient and in consultation with the General Practitioners at the Health Centre, we are planning to extend the car park.

Union Street The need to provide General Practitioner facilities to link with the existing Medical Centre is becoming more pressing and the Health Committee is anxious that the adjoining land be acquired to allow for this development.

FINALLY The reorganisation of the National Health Service and Local Government on 1st April 1974 will bring to an end an era of over 100 years during which ten Medical Officers of Health have served the Borough.

During the coming months until April 1974, our energies will be directed towards ensuring a smooth integration of our services with the other two parts of the National Health Service. The opportunities for continued progress in the field of preventive medicine will undoubtedly be greater following integration and the strong links between ourselves and the Public Health Inspectors formed during the years when we have been colleagues in the same authority, will guarantee our continued close collaboration essential for the preservation of the health of the community.

J.G.M.MORTIMER
Medical Officer of Health

I VITAL STATISTICS

GENERAL

	Mid Year Registrar-General's Estimate			Census	
	1972	1971	1970	1971	1961
Population of the Borough Registrar General Mid-Year Estimate	73,960	72,880	69,170	73,229	63,317
Area of the Borough in Acres	6,012	6,012	6,012		
No. of Inhabited Dwellings	23,414	23,098	22,520		
No. of Private Householders				23,525	20,391
No. of Private Dwellings					18,617
Rateable Value	£4,657,860	£4,559,599	£4,302,747		
Penny Rate Product for the Year	£44,750	* £44,175	£17,800		

* Change to Decimal Currency

VITAL STATISTICS

This year for completeness I have included in the report an analysis of the population (as per Census 1971) of age and sex:

Age	Persons	Males					Females				
		Total	S	M	W	D	Total	S	M	W	D
All Ages	73,230	36,105	16,795	18,195	830	285	37,125	15,260	17,950	3,455	460
0-4	6,380	3,335	3,335				3,045	3,045			
5-9	6,815	3,540	3,540				3,275	3,275			
10-14	6,110	3,190	3,190				2,925	2,925			
15-19	5,755	2,880	2,820	60	*	*	2,875	2,590	285	*	*
20-24	5,880	2,865	1,675	1,180	*	5	3,015	1,180	1,815	5	20
25-29	4,695	2,395	605	1,760	5	30	2,295	285	1,950	10	50
30-34	4,300	2,255	305	1,915	*	35	2,045	155	1,810	20	60
35-39	4,435	2,130	205	1,895	*	30	2,305	140	2,085	25	55
40-44	4,730	2,420	200	2,165	10	45	2,310	160	2,050	50	50
45-49	4,860	2,540	235	2,250	20	35	2,315	145	2,010	110	55
50-54	4,080	2,050	175	1,805	45	25	2,030	165	1,670	145	50
55-59	3,800	1,910	190	1,635	60	25	1,890	185	1,415	250	40
60-64	3,395	1,625	135	1,380	80	30	1,770	215	1,145	380	30
65-69	2,715	1,190	80	965	130	15	1,525	230	800	465	30
70-74	2,170	835	60	630	140	5	1,335	215	510	605	10
75-79	1,535	530	30	360	140	*	1,005	160	260	575	10
80-84	930	275	15	145	110	*	660	115	110	435	*
85-89	455	105	5	40	65	*	345	50	30	265	*
90-94	145	25	5	*	20	*	120	20	5	95	*
95 & over	40	5	*	*	5	*	35	5	*	30	*

S Single
M Married
W Widowed
D Divorced

Figures to nearest 5

*Denotes less than 5

VITAL STATISTICS

ACTUAL NUMBERS

		BEDFORD				
		Males	Females	TOTALS		
				1972	1971	1970
Live births	Total	610	584	1,194	1,325	1,245
	Legitimate	544	529	1,073	1,182	1,134
	Illegitimate	66	55	121	143	111
Stillbirths	Total	7	7	14	17	16
	Legitimate	6	6	12	15	14
	Illegitimate	1	1	2	2	2
Total live and still births	Total	617	591	1,208	1,342	1,261
	Legitimate	550	535	1,085	1,197	1,148
	Illegitimate	67	56	123	145	113
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	Total	11	10	21	26	14
	Legitimate	9	10	19	23	9
	Illegitimate	2	-	2	3	5
under 4 weeks of age	Total	8	5	13	18	8
	Legitimate	6	5	11	16	5
	Illegitimate	2	-	2	2	3
under 1 week of age	Total	7	4	11	17	8
	Legitimate	5	4	9	15	5
	Illegitimate	2	-	2	2	3
Deaths - all ages		379	368	747	686	705

1 SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, REFUSE
COLLECTION, STREET CLEANSING AND
SHOWER BATHS

I am indebted to the Chief Engineer for the following report:

Sewage and Sewage Disposal

Extensions to the Water Pollution Control Works were completed and brought into use in August 1972. These enable the sewage to be treated more efficiently and an effluent to be produced which is within the revised standards required by the River Authority.

During 1972 the new storm water sewer Foster Hill Road (Albert Street) to Dame Alice Street (Telephone House) was completed relieving the present system and replacing an old and largely inaccessible culvert. A storm water relief sewer scheme has been prepared for the Elstow Road district and tenders are being invited with a view to the works being commenced in June 1973.

Swimming Pools

The attendance at the pools in the Borough during 1972 were as follows:

Newnham Pool	32,259
Robinson Pool	246,016 (68,003 adults, 178,013 children)

Showers at Multi-Storey Car Parks

During 1972 these were patronised by 2,200 persons.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The domestic and trade refuse collection service has continued to operate satisfactorily, domestic refuse being collected in paper sacks. Special collections of bulky items and any other items needing special attention have been made as necessary. The use of large bulk containers at selected sites throughout the Borough for fortnightly periods was undertaken successfully from mid-May onwards and the public made full use of these facilities.

Street Cleansing

Good standards of street cleansing have been maintained during the year but increasing difficulty is being experienced in carrying out this work because of the large increase in the numbers of parked cars following the relaxation of vehicle lighting requirements.

2 WATER

The Engineer and Manager of the Bedfordshire Water Board has kindly supplied the following report:

- (i) (a) The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
 - (b) All repair work on mains is followed by chlorination and sampling by the Board's Chemist.
 - (c) All houses are supplied by public water direct except "The Barns" and "Rookery Nook" in Cardington Road.
- (ii) (a) Source River Great Ouse (Bedford)

Bacteriological Results - Year ended 31 March 1972:

Origin of Sample	No. of Samples	Average No. of coliforms in 100ml	Average No. of E. coli in 100 ml
Raw River Water	53	7,580	3,710
Bedford Reservoir	227	Nil	Nil

A copy of the chemical analysis, is attached.

- (b) No lead in solution. Water not plumbo-solvent.
- (iii) You will be aware that fluoridation was commenced in October 1972. A small quantity of water is received at Manton Lane from the works of the Great Ouse Water Authority at Grafham and is mixed in the service reservoir. In 1972 water from Grafham was approximately 10 per cent of the Bedford supply.

BEDFORDSHIRE WATER BOARD

Bedford River Great Ouse Source

Chemical Analysis of Raw and Treated Water

for year ended 31 March 1972

	Raw Water		Treated Water	
	Range	Average	Range	Average
Turbidity (ATU)	5-165	25	Nil-6.7	0.7
Colour (Hazen Units)	7-68	19	2-12	5
Reaction pH	7.76-8.80	8.11	7.06-8.20	7.68
Electric Conductivity (Reciprocal Megohms per ml at 20°C)	695-980	870	690-930	812
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil-0.67	0.13		Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.10-0.86	0.39	0.09-0.34	0.19
Nitrate/nitrite Nitrogen	2.9-11.2	6.6	3.6-10.1	6.5
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C from KMnO_4	1.8-7.1	3.2	0.6-2.3	1.2
Anionic Detergent	0.03-0.23	0.10	0.02-0.15	0.07
Chloride as Cl	23-63	42	31-67	49
Total Hardness as CaCO_3	303-424	367	260-406	320
Total Hardness, degrees Clark	21-30	26	18-28	22
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO_3	150-248	222	84-200	150
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO_3	92-195	145	123-230	170
Calcium as CaCO_3	272-388	335	230-368	288
Magnesium as CaCO_3	26-42	32	25-46	32
Free Carbon Dioxide	-	3	-	6
Fluoride as F	0.13-0.38	0.20	0.05-0.24	0.14
Sodium as Na	18-72	33	20-72	33
Potassium as K	4.4-11	6.5	4.4-11	6.5
Iron as Fe	0.12-7.5	0.66	Nil -0.14	0.04
Lead	-	less than 0.01	-	less than 0.01
Copper	-	less than 0.10	-	less than 0.10
Zinc	-	less than 0.02	-	less than 0.02
Silica as SiO_2	1.0-15	7.7	0.5-10	5.4
Orthophosphate as PO_4	0.50-4.2	1.6	Nil-0.50	0.09
Sulphate as SO_4	111-170	140	120-183	154
Chlorophyll A in mg per m^3	1.5-171	28.9		
Algae Cells per ml	16-122,000	14,370		

Results in Milligrammes per Litre

R.J. ELAM
Engineer and Manager

Bacteriological Examinations

(Undertaken by Public Health Laboratory Service)

UNTREATED AND DRINKING WATER					
Origin of Sample	No. of Samples	Presumptive Coliforms per 100 ml		Faecal Coliforms per 100 ml	
		Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest
Fully Treated Water	27	-	-	-	-
Wells	14	35	-	18+	-
		Presumptive Coliforms per 100 ml		Faecal Coliforms per 100 ml	
Pumping Station	1	1,800+		1,800+	
River Gt.Ouse	1	1,800+		1,800+	
Stream Silver Jubilee Park	1	16,000		3,500	
SWIMMING BATHS AND PADDLING POOL					
Origin of Sample	No. of Samples	Presumptive Coliforms per 100 ml		Faecal Coliforms per 100 ml	
		Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest
Newnham Swimming Baths	10	-	-	-	-
Robinson Swimming Pool	44	-	-	-	-
Schools Swimming Pools	188	250	-	-	-
Longholme Paddling Pool	3	50	-	5	-

III. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1. INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	No. of cases notified		
	1972	1971	1970
Rubella	35	412	14
Measles	24	171	197
Dysentery	6	32	10
Scarlet Fever	8	14	14
Whooping Cough	1	8	19
Infective Jaundice	2	10	12
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	1	2	-
Acute Encephalitis:			
Infective	-	-	-
Post Infectious	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis:			
Paralytic	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Typhoid	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	7	9	8
Malaria:			
Contracted - In Gt. Britain	-	-	-
naturally Abroad	-	-	-
Induced - Accidentally	-	-	-
Therapeutically	-	-	-
Plague	-	-	-
Cholera	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Typhus Fever	-	-	-
Relapsing Fever	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-

2. TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases

Age Range	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total		
	M	F	M	F	1972	1971	1970
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4 years	2	1	-	-	3	2	3
5-9 years	2	-	-	-	2	1	-
10-14 years	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
15-19 years	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
20-24 years	1	3	1	-	5	1	5
25-34 years	1	2	-	-	3	4	12
35-44 years	1	2	-	1	4	7	6
45-54 years	2	1	-	1	4	2	9
55-64 years	1	-	-	1	2	7	5
65-74 years	1	-	-	1	2	2	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Totals	12	9	1	4	26	31	42

NUMBER OF CASES ON REGISTER

	1972	1971	1970
Pulmonary	188	220	206
Non-Pulmonary	84	74	82
TOTAL	272	294	288

Analysis of Notifications

Year	Total Notifications			Commonwealth Nationals			
	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Total	% of Main Total
1972	21	5	26	10	3	13	50.0
1971	22	9	31	5	6	11	35.5
1970	20	22	42	5	12	17	40.5
1969	21	5	26	8	-	8	30.8
1968	27	16	43	10	7	17	39.5

The figures relating to Commonwealth Nationals are based on name only and may not include persons who have British names, but who may be otherwise.

The information contained under Total Notifications includes immigrants other than Commonwealth Nationals.

To obtain a true indication of the incidence of the disease an ethnic check is required on all cases and this cannot be undertaken at the present time.

The figures quoted in the second half of the Table are a guide only.

3 MASS RADIOGRAPHY

I am indebted to the Director of the Mass Radiography Service for the following report:

Chest X-ray Sessions

Bedford 1972

Firms Survey

<u>Name of Firm</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
George Fischer	564	126	690
Vauxhall Motors Ltd. Elstow Road	349	3	352
C.E.G. Board Goldington	114	10	124
Bedford Prison	193	-	193
Gordon Fraser	25	103	128
College of Education	46	120	166
College of Physical Education	4	140	144

Investigation Cases - Diagnosis

Carcinoma right lower lobe	1
Pulmonary Cyst	1
Sarcoidosis	1
Congenital Heart Condition	3
Hypertension	1
Bronchiectasis	2
No further action necessary	6

The following tables show the number of children vaccinated and immunised.

SMALLPOX

No of Persons Vaccinated						
No of Primary Vaccinations				No Re-Vaccinated		
	1972	1971	1970	1972	1971	1970
TOTAL	140	641	738	684	623	653
Children up to 15 years	46	568	649	113	131	126
Over 15 years	94	73	89	571	492	527

DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS, MEASLES, POLIOMYELITIS, RUBELLA

Completed Courses: - Number of Persons under Age 16

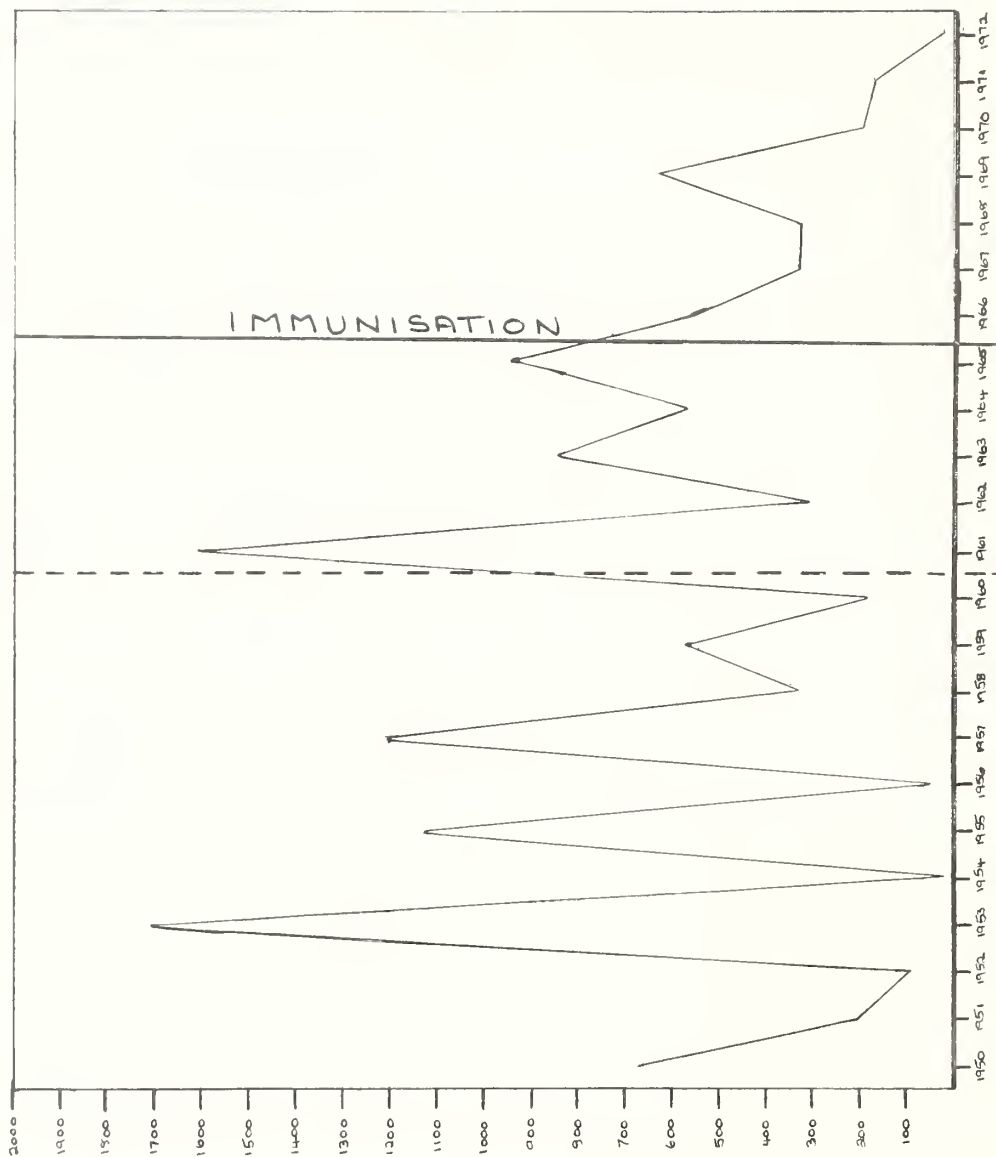
Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under age 16	Total
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1965-1968		
Quadruple DTPP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Triple DTP	3	790	112	10	15	-	930
Diphtheria/ Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria/ Tetanus	-	2	2	-	204	60	268
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	63	63
Poliomyelitis	3	793	113	11	217	95	1,232
Measles	-	517	174	20	196	5	912
Totals -							
Diphtheria	3	792	114	10	220	61	1,202
Pertussis	3	790	112	10	15	-	930
Tetanus	3	792	114	10	219	123	1,261
Poliomyelitis	3	793	113	11	217	95	1,232
Rubella (German Measles)	-	-	-	-	-	873	873

DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS, MEASLES, POLIOMELITIS

Re-inforcing Doses - Number of Persons Under Age 16

Type of vaccine or dose	Year of Birth					Others under age 16	Total
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1965- 1968		
Quadruple DTPP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Triple DTP	-	-	1	1	14	-	16
Diphtheria/ Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria/ Tetanus	-	-	-	-	759	140	899
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	11	3	14
Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	6	365	371
Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	1	764	482	1,248
Totals -							
Diphtheria	-	-	1	1	784	143	929
Pertussis	-	-	1	1	14	-	16
Tetanus	-	-	1	1	779	505	1,286
Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	1	764	482	1,248

INCIDENCE OF MEASLES 1950 - 1972



TUBERCULIN TESTING - HEAF METHOD - SCHOOL ENTRANTS

	1972	1971	1970
Consent given	1,122	1,158	1,044
Consent not given	181	192*	156
No of children tested	978	1,003	875
No found to be negative	954	962	855
No found to be positive	24	41	20
Absent from school at time of test	119	134	140
Left school before test given	25	21	29

* Of these numbers the greater part had received B.C.G. vaccination, or were under observation at the Chest Clinic

TUBERCULIN TEST AND B.C.G. VACCINATION
CHILDREN 13 YEARS AND UPWARDS

School Children and Students

	1972	1971	1970
No. skin tested	1,116	1,550	1,166
No. found positive	96	218	182
No. found negative	923	1,208	911
No. vaccinated	922	1,205	911
For B.C.G. vaccination later	1	3	-
Test not read	60	79	44
No. who had been vaccinated previously	37	45	29

V. HEALTH CENTRES AND CLINICS

1. LOCATION

The following shows the number of Health Centres and Clinics in the town:

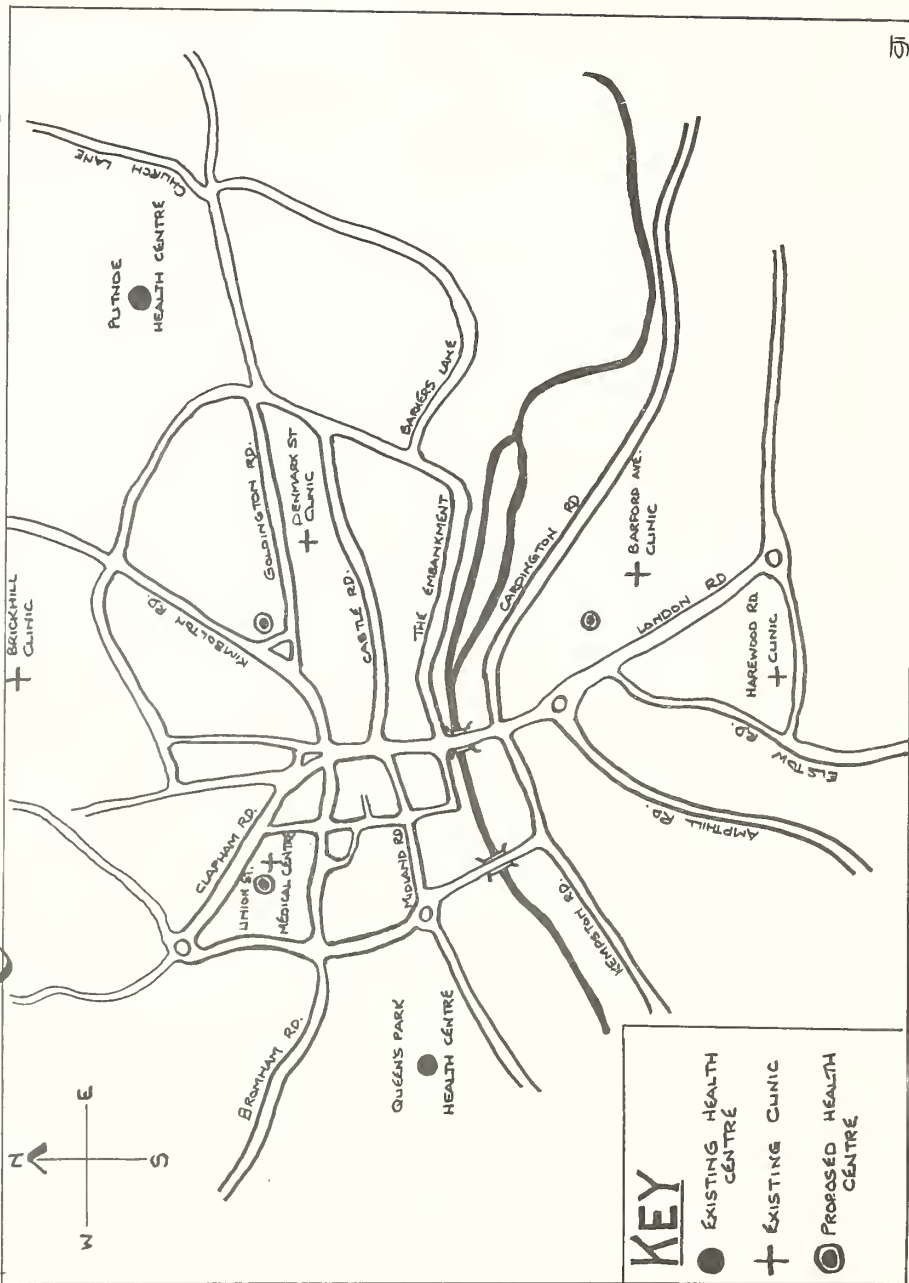
Health Centres and Clinics - Purpose Built

		<u>Opened</u>
29 Barford Avenue	Clinic	March 1969
85 Queen's Drive Putnoe	Clinic	3 July 1961
	Dental Unit	March 1969
	Group Surgery (merged)	29 December 1972
Medical Centre Union Street	Clinic	May 1962
Linnet Way, Brickhill	Clinic	November 1963
23B Carlisle Road (Health Centre)	Clinic	August 1966
	Group Surgery	28 April 1969
	Dental Unit	March 1972
	(modification of existing building)	

Clinics at Hired Premises

Baptist Church Schoolroom Denmark Street	Formerly at the Reading Room Barkers Lane
Community Hall Harewood Road	Formerly at Elstow Church Hall

BEDFORD ~ CLINICS and HEALTH CENTRES



HEALTH CENTRES AND CLINICS - SESSIONS

	MEDICAL CENTRE UNION STREET				First Floor		Putnoe Queens Drive	Brickhill Linnets Way	Queens Park Carlisle Road	Barford Avenue	Denmark Street Baptist Church Schoolroom	Harwood Road Community Hall
	Ground Floor		Right	Left	Right	Left						
MONDAY Morning	Orthoptics Speech Therapy Audiometry	Doctors' Session (S.H.S.) Chiroprody	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Group Surgery Dental Surgery Chiroprody (fortnightly) Mothers & Babies Immunisation Group Surgery	Children's Assessment Group District Nurses Mothers & Babies District Nurses	Dental Surgery Group Surgery Speech Therapy Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Mothers & Babies		
	Afternoon	Orthoptics Speech Therapy Audiometry	Chiroprody	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Group Surgery	District Nurses				Group Surgery
Evening				Youth Coun- selling Service					Group Surgery			
TUESDAY Morning	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Minor Ailments Cyclology (fortnightly) Chiroprody (fortnightly)	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Chiroprody Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Brickhill Play Group District Nurses	Dental Surgery Mentally Handicapped Children's Play Group Group Surgery	Chiroprody		
Afternoon	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Mothers & Babies Immunisation	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Midwives Booking Relaxation Mothercraft & Dental Surgery Group Surgery	District Nurses	Dental Surgery Mothers & Babies Immunisation Group Surgery	Chiroprody		
Evening	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Family Planning Assn.	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Chiroprody Occupational Therapy Speech Therapy Dental Surgery Group Surgery	District Nurses	Group Surgery Dental Surgery	Birth Control		
WEDNESDAY Morning	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Minor Ailments Birth Control (IUD)	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Chiroprody Dental Surgery Group Surgery		Mothercraft & Relaxation (fortnightly) Midwives Bookings (fortnightly) Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Mothercraft & Relaxation Midwives Bookings		Mothers & Babies Immunisation
Afternoon	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Mothers & Babies	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Speech Therapy Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Mothercraft & Relaxation (fortnightly) Midwives Bookings (fortnightly) District Nurses				
Evening									Group Surgery			
THURSDAY Morning	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Family Planning Assn. (fortnightly)	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Birth Control Dental Surgery Group Surgery	District Nurses	Group Surgery Dental Surgery	Speech Therapy Chiroprody		
Afternoon	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Minor Ailments Chiroprody Dept. of Health & S.S	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Mothers & Babies Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Mothers & Babies Immunisation District Nurses	Group Surgery Dental Surgery	Mothers & Babies Immunisation		
Evening									Group Surgery			
FRIDAY Morning	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Diabetic Research 4 p.m. onwards Minor Ailments Chiroprody Dept. of Health & S.S	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Brickhill Playgroup District Nurses	Dental Surgery Group Surgery Chiroprody	Alcoholics Anatomous Speech Therapy Doctors Session (S.H.S.) (fortnightly) Chiroprody		Mothers & Babies Immunisation (fortnightly)
Afternoon	Orthoptics Speech Therapy	Dept. of Health & S.S Blood Transfusion Service	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Orthodontics	Child Guidance	Dental Surgery Group Surgery	Family Planning Assn. District Nurses	Dental Surgery Birth Control	Chiroprody		
Evening									Group Surgery			
SATURDAY Morning									Group Surgery			

NOTE: Health Visitors and Clinic Nurses are available at each Centre/Clinic between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Each Local Authority building contains an office for Health Visitors.

The Peripatetic Teacher of Pre-School Deaf Children is based at Brickhill Clinic.

Handicapped Sections for the Blind and Clubs for the Disabled ceased to use the Clinics early in 1973 on transfer to the newly opened Social Centre for the Physically Handicapped in Barkers Lane. These sessions are not, therefore, included in the above schedule.

Listed below are the projects the Local Health Authority has approved and the stages reached:

Health Centre
Union Street
(at present the
Medical Centre)

Extension and redesigning of existing Clinic to provide general practitioners' group surgeries; additional dental surgery; general purpose rooms etc.
Planned for 1974 - 1975.
Negotiations proceeding for purchase of additional land.

St. Peter's
Health Centre

Site still required. Sites have been suggested but generally the cost has been too high or the position unsuitable. Search for a suitable site still continues.

Fenlake Health Centre
London Road

Site selected on former pre-fabricated housing site. Negotiations taking place between Local Health Authority and Borough Council for purchase of land. To include general practitioners' surgeries, dental unit, as well as Local Authority usual services.
To replace Barford Avenue Clinic.

Putnoe Health Centre

Group surgery purchased by Local Health Authority on 29 December 1972.
Plans to extend the group surgery and merge with existing Clinic have been submitted to the Department of Health and Social Security for approval.

VI MATERNITY AND CHILD HEALTH

1 ANTENATAL CARE - MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES

	Barford Avenue	Brickhill	Putnoe	Queen's Park	Union Street	Total		
						1972	1971	1970
No. of Sessions	51	19	42	24	50	186	157	130
No. Attending	26	12	36	20	40	134	147	127
Total Attendances	224	60	130	83	180	677	691	598

2 MIDWIFERY SERVICE

Number of cases delivered in hospitals and other institutions but discharged and attended by domiciliary midwives	Discharged within	
	2 days	255
	3 - 7 days	218
	8 or more days	53
	Total	526
Number of domiciliary confinements attended by midwives under NHS arrangements		158
Number of hospital confinements conducted by domiciliary midwives		1

3 GENERAL PRACTITIONER OBSTETRIC FACILITIES AT THE
BEDFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL (NORTH WING)

Six beds at the Maternity Unit have been placed at the disposal of General Practitioners, along with the District Midwives, to enable them to deliver their own patients in the hospital.

The Hospital Authority is responsible for the provision of "hotel" facilities.

4 NOTIFICATION OF CONGENITAL DEFECTS APPARENT AT BIRTH

CONGENITAL DEFECT OF:	TOTAL		
	1972	1971	1970
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM	6	5	-
EYE AND EAR	-	-	-
ALIMENTARY SYSTEM	1	2	1
HEART AND CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	2	5	-
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	1	-	-
URINO-GENITAL SYSTEM	2	-	1
LIMBS	1	11	7
OTHER PARTS OF MUSCULO SKELETAL SYSTEM	2	-	-
OTHER SYSTEMS	1	-	1
OTHER MALFORMATIONS	3	2	5
	19	25	15

We obtain the notification of congenital defects apparent at birth by the doctor or midwife in attendance at the confinement signifying on the birth notification form the nature of the defect in line with the schedule laid down by the Registrar General, to whom details are submitted as soon as possible. This information is used for "screening" purposes.

Locally, children affected by congenital defects are kept under constant observation by the medical services available, thereby ensuring that all possible help is given as the need arises.

5 CHILD HEALTH CENTRES

	Barford Ave	Brickhill	Denmark Street	Harewood Road	Putnoe	Queens Park	Union Street	Total		Comparative Totals for Previous Years	
								1972	1971	1970	1970
No. of Sessions	100	100	51	52	100	51	103	557	557	560	560
No. of Children who attended who were born in current year born in previous year born in other years	145	123	123	48	182	120	193	934	1,064	1,095	1,095
	175	58	124	37	264	143	216	1,017	990	1,094	1,094
	79	148	30	44	99	73	120	593	712	802	802
Total	399	329	277	129	545	336	529	2,544	2,766	2,991	2,991
Total Attendances	4,792	3,498	1,850	1,540	3,947	2,178	2,841	20,646	22,817	24,144	24,144

These figures reveal a drop in total attendances from 24,144 in 1970 to 20,646 in 1972. Even so 78% of all children born in the Borough in 1972 attended Local Authority clinics during the first year of their life.

At the age of 7 - 9 months the Health Visitor screens every child in her practice for possible deafness.

Those who fail two such screening tests are referred to a Special Audiology Clinic where a Medical Officer and the Teacher of the Deaf see the child and mother, and carry out a full assessment of the hearing. Those children in whom a defect of hearing is confirmed are referred to Consultant Otologists who are able to provide specific hearing aids.

AUDIOLOGY CLINIC

	1972	1971	1970
No of Sessions	8	10	8
No of Examinations	31	40	23
No of Individual Cases	30	33	16

7. DEVELOPMENTAL PAEDIATRICS

From the 1st January a new scheme operated at the Child Health Centres whereby a child's progress between 0 and 5 years of age will be carefully observed.

Each child is to be seen at regular intervals to assess physical and intellectual development.

A new consultation record card has been brought into use and in this will be entered details of a child's development during the early years.

8 DENTAL CARE

A. CLINIC ATTENDANCES AND TREATMENT	Children 0-4 (incl.)	Expectant & Nursing Mothers
First Visits	189	27
Subsequent Visits	323	84
Total Visits	512	111
No. of additional courses of treatment other than first course	20	3
No. of fillings	354	80
No. of Teeth filled	303	71
No. of Teeth extracted	208	21
No. of General Anaesthetics given	63	5
No. of emergency visits	2	1
No. of patients X-rayed	2	14
No. of patients treated by scaling etc. (prophylaxis)	104	19
Teeth otherwise conserved	33	
Teeth root filled		1
Inlays		-
Crowns		1
No. of courses of treatment completed during the year	207	25
B. PROSTHETICS		
Patients supplied with F.U. or F.L.*	-	-
Patients supplied with other dentures	-	3
No. of dentures supplied * (First time)		3
C. ANAESTHETICS		
Administered by Dental Officers		- -
D. INSPECTIONS		
No. of patients given 1st inspection during the year	(A) 351	(D) 29
No. of patients in (A) & (D) above who required treatment	(B) 161	(E) 29
No. of patients in (B) & (E) above who were offered treatment	(C) 161	(F) 29
No. of patients re-inspected during year	3	-
E. SESSIONS		
No. of Dental Officer Sessions devoted to Maternity & Child Health Sessions for treatment for health education		80.9 -

9. DENTAL SCREENING

Dental Examination of Children at the age of 3 years

		Percentage of <u>Whole</u>
Number of invitations issued	1,401	-
Acceptances for treatment under Local Authority Arrangements	323	22.3
Obtaining treatment privately	45	3.2

As well as many other children who will have been seen by private dentists, I am pleased to see that at least 25% of our children are having dental advice at this early age.

10. ANNUAL REPORT (M & CW) OF THE CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

Mr. H.W. Sheasby, Chief Dental Officer reports as follows:

"Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, priority in Dental treatment is given to nursing and expectant mothers and to children; these all receive treatment free of charge.

Local Health Authorities also provide facilities for the Dental care of mothers and young children, as well as for those at school. In Bedford these are available at all of the three dental centres in the Borough, i.e. in Union Street, Queen's Drive and Carlisle Road, and also at the mobile clinic which operates mainly on the southern side of the river.

The work for all the priority groups is in Bedford carried out by the same dental staff, and this report should therefore be read in conjunction with that for the School Dental Service.

The dental care of nursing and expectant mothers continued on very much the same scale as in recent years, but that of children under school age increased greatly - probably as a result of the introduction of a reminder card which is now being sent to the parents of all 3 year olds. The total of pre-school children who attended was more than double that for any previous year.

The treatment of these little ones we consider to be a necessary foundation for our work in the School Dental Service, and we were very pleased to be given this opportunity to reduce the severity of dental trouble later for them. The Dental Auxiliary again did a valuable share of this work.

11. DENTAL UNITS

Queen's Park Health Centre - New Dental Unit

By re-arrangement of the use of rooms at the above named Centre it was possible to install a dental surgery without extension of the building.

This surgery is now in use and is proving to be a worthwhile addition to the services provided at the premises.

Medical Centre, Union Street - Dental Unit

The equipment in the Borough Dental Surgery, which was originally installed in a former surgery at No. 30 Bromham Road, and then transferred to the Medical Centre in May 1962, had become somewhat outdated and it was, therefore, replaced by modern new equipment in December 1972.

12. WELFARE FOODS - DISTRIBUTION

	TOTAL		
	1972	1971	1970
Packets of National Dried Milk	10,278	4,687	5,495
Bottles of Orange Juice	2,981	18,913	19,856
Packets of A. & D. Tablets	383	659	710
Bottles of A.D. & C. Drops	3,173	1,162	-
Sale of Proprietary Foods - Income	£8,000	£7,500	£7,500

National Welfare Orange Juice was withdrawn on the 31st December 1971 (although existing stocks were on sale until they were exhausted), but as the demand for orange juice is still considerable and as supplies were available direct from the manufacturers, arrangements were made for its sale to be included in the item "Sale of Proprietary Foods - Income".

The doubling of sales of National Dried Milk could be attributed to the use of forms of dried milk in place of fresh milk for young children. Since National Dried Milk is pre-fed with Vitamin D this trend is to be encouraged.

I am also particularly pleased to see the increase in the take-up of A, D & C drops.

Elsewhere in the report I have discussed the danger of rickets again becoming prevalent, and I would stress how important these vitamins are, especially Vitamin D for the young growing child.

13. PLACEMENT OF PRE-SCHOOL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Again this year I would draw your attention to the need for pre-school provision for the handicapped child.

The expected opening of the Peter Pan Nursery School in September 1973 is one step towards the provision in the Borough of adequate pre-school provision. Also we expect the opening of the new Physically Handicapped Day School in Kempston which will cater for those children who are so handicapped that they cannot attend ordinary school. For many years the Spastics Centre at Drayton House has provided both therapeutic and educational facilities for these children and it would be appropriate to record our appreciation for the efforts of the Staff who over the years, have worked so conscientiously on behalf of the physically handicapped children in the Borough.

Also we should acknowledge the exceptional efforts made by the staff of the Bedford Day Nursery over the years to 'educate' from a very early age some of our more severely handicapped pre-school children.

PLACEMENT OF PRE-SCHOOL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

TABLE 15	B.A.P.G. .				Bedford Day Nursery				Drayton House				Parkdene PHU				Private Playgroup				Queens Park Mentally Hand. Playgroup				Assessment Playgroup Kempston				Not Placed Yet			
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967 Sept. - Dec.	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967 Sept. - Dec.	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967 Sept. - Dec.	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967 Sept. - Dec.	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967 Sept. - Dec.		
YEAR OF BIRTH																																
Blind																																
Partially Sighted																																
Deaf																																
Partially Hearing																																
Delicate																																
Epileptic																																
Maladjusted																																
Mentally Retarded																																
Severely Subnormal																																
Physically Handicapped																																
Speech Defect																																
Undiagnosed																																
TOTALS	-	-	-	2	4	1	-	-	1	2	3	1	-	-	1	6	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	16	19	7	7	5

VII HEALTH VISITING

Case	Number of Cases Seen		
	Total	Hospital	General Practitioner
Children born in 1972	1,304	26	104
Other Children aged under 5	3,593	25	156
Persons aged between 5-16 seen as part of health visiting (i.e. excluding those seen as part of school health service)	268	7	118
Persons aged between 17 and 64	1,262	25	269
Persons aged 65 and over	1,027	20	459
Households visited on account of tuberculosis	19	-	-
Households visited on account of other infectious diseases	38	1	44
Households visited for any other reason	222	27	56
TOTAL	7,733	131	1,206
Number of persons included in lines 1-6 above who are:			
Mentally Handicapped	71	2	16
Mentally Ill	67	2	31

HEALTH EDUCATION SESSIONS

Number of Health Education Sessions attended by Health Visitors.	At Health Centres	40
	At GP premises (excluding those in Health Centres)	70
	At Maternity and Child Health Centres	105
	At school	13
	At Hospital	-
	Elsewhere	2
TOTAL		230
Number of health education sessions attended by school nurses		-

CASE CONFERENCES

Number of Case Conferences attended by Health Visitors with:	Social Workers	23
	Hospital Staff	16
	General Practitioners	674
	Any combination of above	23
	Others (i.e. none of the above present)	76
TOTAL		812

HEALTH VISITORS

The Local Health Authority agreed to an increase of health visitors at present 17, as follows:

1 in September 1973
1 in December 1973
1 in March 1974

an increase of 3.

The first increase will be filled by a student previously employed by the Authority as a District Nurse and now undergoing Health Visitor training, under the Authority's Training Scheme, providing, of course, that she is successful in the examination.

Place where first treatment during the year by the home nurse took place	No. of persons treated during year aged			
	Under 5	5 - 64	65 and over	Total
Patient's Home	59	1,422	1,082	2,563
Health Centres	69	458	42	569
GPs' Premises (excluding those in Health Centres)	31	650	53	734
Maternity & Child Health Centres	-	-	-	-
Residential Homes	-	5	43	48
TOTAL	159	2,535	1,220	3,914

The present establishment of 27 nurses and midwives is to be increased by 4 to 31, namely:

2 in April 1973
 1 in October 1973
 1 in January 1974

AUXILIARY NURSING SERVICE

Since the scheme for geriatric care was inaugurated many elderly people living alone have been cared for in their own homes for much longer than would have been possible without this service. Similarly, elderly couples have been able to live together without having had to separate them on grounds of their being in need of care and attention.

There is no doubt that the nursing auxiliary service has been of great help to the nursing staff because the nurses have been able to devote more time to essential nursing in the home to the greater benefit of the patients.

GERIATRICS

The present establishment of three nursing auxiliaries is to be increased to four in September 1973.

There is close liaison between the Health and Social Services Department. Frequent visits are paid by nursing officers both to the Local Authority welfare homes and to registered private homes to assess nursing needs. Where necessary district nursing staff undertake nursing care to the degree that they would for patients in their own homes. A medical officer and nursing officer inspect the medicine and drug cupboards in residential homes and advise where necessary.

The geriatric liaison health visitors provide a very important link between the hospitals, general practitioners, health visitors and district nurses.

IX OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

GENERAL

Much useful work was undertaken by Mrs. Green, Occupational Therapist, during the year. There is no doubt that most of the patients received benefit from treatment given, although in some cases this is a slow and continuing process.

The work load indicated in the following tables in our opinion would, therefore, justify the employment of a second occupational therapist to work in the Borough and we would advise the new Health Authority that this service warrants an increase in allocation of resources, both manpower and equipment.

With re-organisation of the National Health Service the opportunity to create a unified rehabilitation service utilising the efforts of both the hospital based staff of physiotherapy and the community occupational therapist should now be grasped.

In the report for 1971 it was suggested that the time had arrived for the appointment of a second occupational therapist, in view of the amount of work now involved.

The Health Committee agreed to this addition in 1973/1974. The Local Health Authority (The Bedfordshire County Council) felt unable to agree to this and, therefore, the proposed increase was withdrawn by that body.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

CASES REFERRED BY:

General Practitioners	9
M.O.H. or Deputy	8
District Nurses	1
Health Visitors	15
Social Workers	27
Hospital Consultants	33

TREATMENT GIVEN AT:

Home	) New Cases	91
	) Others	786
Hospital or	) New Cases	10
Nursing Home	) Others	30
	) Sessions held	65
Clinic	) New cases attending	15
	) Other cases	
	) attending	628

CASE CONFERENCES - with

M.O.H. or Deputy	7
General Practitioners	10
Hospital Consultants	22
Health Visitors	3
District Nurses	-
Social Welfare Officers	17
Youth Employment	-
Others	9

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY - PATIENTS TREATED

The following table shows the age distribution of patients treated and the nature of their various disabilities.

Type of Disability	Age Under 5	Age 5-16	Age 16-40	Age 40-65	Age Over 65	Total
Arthritis	-	-	4	7	18	29
Amputation	-	-	-	1	3	4
Hemiplegia	-	-	-	18	24	42
Multiple Sclerosis	-	-	-	4	-	4
Cerebral Palsy	-	2	1	-	-	3
Organic Nervous Diseases not included above	-	-	-	-	10	10
Spina Bifida	4	1	-	-	-	5
Other Congenital Defects and Deformities	3	1	-	3	-	7
Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Respiratory and Digestive Systems	1	-	1	2	5	9
Injuries of the Head, Trunk and Limbs or of the Spine	-	-	-	2	1	3
Neurosis, Psychoses and other nervous disorders not included above	-	-	1	3	-	4
Total	8	4	7	40	61	120

Attending Occupational Therapy Sessions 34

REHABILITATION EQUIPMENT

ISSUES

Made by Occupational Therapist

Shoulder Pulley	3
Handgrip for Shoulder Pulley	1
Shoulder exercise Pulley with handgrip strap	1
Pulley Handle	1
Stocking and Sock Aids	2
Webbing Sling	1
Dressing Stick	1
Stool for balancing (adapted nursery chair)	1
Long Handle for Hairbrush	1
Stirrup Handle for use with Spring	1
Chair Arm Raiser	1
Wall Can Opener Board	1
Finger Exercise Board	1
Detachable adaptation to baby chair (tray and adjustable base)	1
Bread Cutting Board	1
Nail File Aid	1
Rope Ladder	1
Feeding Bottle Aid	1
Latex Mesh Seat Cover	1
Polishing Splint (left hand)	1
Clothing adaptations	4
Tin opener table model with Skyline Opener	1

PURCHASED

Rubazote for cutlery and Pan Handles	3
Silicone Exercise Putty	2
Latex Mesh Non-slip	3
Parallel Bars	1
Lobster Pot Walking Aid	1
Teapot Tipper	1
Long Handled Comb	2
Quadruped Walking Aid	1
Long Handled Sponge	2
10 lb Spring	1
Schede Walking Tricycle	1
Protective Helmet	1
Suction Egg Cups	6
Walking Frame	1
Latex Mesh Non-slip Mat	2
Cycle Exerciser	1
Long Handled Shoe Horn	3
Blocks	1
Bed Pulley Elastic Bandage	1
Wall Can Opener	1
Spiked Vegetable Board	1
Exercise Ball Sponge	1
Manory Knife	1
Suction Nailbrush	1
Latex Mesh Table Mat	1
Undoit	1
Long Handled Extension to Brush/Comb	1

X CHIROPODY

Under the Borough Scheme, chiropody treatment is available for persons in the following groups:-

- *Men, 65 years of age and over
- *Women, 60 years of age and over
- Handicapped persons (Irrespective of age)
- Expectant Mothers

*Who are not employed for the greater part of the day.

Treatment by appointment is undertaken at the following centres in the town:-

- Clinic, 29 Barford Avenue
- Health Centre, 23b Carlisle Road, Queen's Park
- Clinic, 85 Queen's Drive, Putnoe, Bedford
- ✓ 15 St. Cuthberts Street (Old People's Welfare Committee)
- Medical Centre, Union Street
- Surgery, 36 Stanley Street (Mrs. F.S. Burrell)
- Surgery, 25 York Street (Mrs. V.L. Newbold)

✓ Not expectant mothers.

In exceptional circumstances, i.e. where a person is completely housebound then treatment at home can be arranged.

The following charges are made:-

- at Clinic - 15p
- at Home - 20p

CHIROPODY

	Local Health Authority	Old People's Welfare Committee	Private Chirop- odist	Total			
				1972	1971	1970	1969
No. of Patients Treated	771	1,287	264	2,322	2,114	1,832	1,616
Sessions (excluding Private Surgeries)	358	337		695	538	537	610
No. of Treatments at Clinics and Surgeries	1,725	4,293		6,018	5,100	4,901	4,754
at Private Surgery			1,162	1,162	1,044	1,077	1,106
No. of Domicilliary Visits	1,455	2,155	376	3,986	3,963	3,506	2,767

X1 CERVICAL CYTOLOGY

Examinations Undertaken

	Employees at Texas Instruments	Union Street Clinics	Birth Control Clinics	Total		
				1972	1971	1970
No. of Tests	284	373	332	989	732	504
No. of Sessions	14	19		33	22	21
No. referred for further investigation	-	4	5	9	7	5
No. referred to own General Practitioner for other reasons	42	38	95	175	185	133

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY RECALL SCHEME 1972

No. of recall letters and forms sent to patients 927

No. of forms received back:

(a) requesting treatment by general practitioners	102	
(b) requesting treatment through Local Health Authority Clinic	<u>227</u>	329 = 35.5% of forms sent
(c) had recent repeats	145	
(d) refused repeat	20	
(e) "not known" (10 have since been traced)	<u>39</u>	204 = 22% of forms sent

Replies received: 553 = 57.5% of letters sent

If, after a period of four months, no reply has been received to the initial recall letter, a further invitation is sent.

XII FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

During the year an additional Clinic was opened at Queen's Park Health Centre on Friday afternoons on a weekly basis without an appointment. Family Planning Clinics are held as under:

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Times</u>
Clinic, 29 Barford Avenue	Wednesday, 9.30am to 12 noon
Clinic, 85 Queen's Drive, Putnoe	Thursday, 9.30 to 12 noon
Medical Centre, Union Street	Monday, 5.00pm to 7.30pm
Medical Centre, Union Street	Wednesday, 9.30am to 12 noon (Intra-Uterine device only)
Health Centre, 23b Carlisle Road Queen's Park	Friday 1.30pm to 4.00pm
Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road	Friday - for hospital referrals only.

CLINIC ATTENDANCES

	Union Street	Queen's Park Centre	Barford Ave. Clinic	Putnoe Clinic	Bedford General Hospital		Total		
	I.U.D.	Other	Other	Other	I.U.D.	Other	1972	1971	1970
Number of Women attending First Time	*97	42	79	89	132	178	*617	483	442
Total Number Attending	202	42	329	315	164	209	1261	1030	804
Number of Attendances - Seen by Doctor	419	68	736	637	388	352	2600	2024	1720
Requiring Supplies (Not seen by Dr)	-	-	336	206	-	-	542	532	445
Number of Sessions	33	14	55	53	45		200	169	126

In addition to the above service the Herts. and Beds. Branch of the Family Planning Association also operates clinics in Bedford.

* Less 24 patients transferred from one clinic in the area to another clinic.

Queen's Park Sessions commenced on 15 September.

VASECTOMY

The National Health Service (Family Planning) Amendment Act 1972 came into force in October. Services under this Act may be provided by Local Health Authorities.

No requests for this provision have, so far, been received.

It is expected that an Out-Patients Clinic will be held at Bedford General Hospital (South Wing) under the auspices of the Local Health Authority.

DOMICILIARY SERVICES

The HealthCommittee gave approval in July to domiciliary visits being made by medical practitioners in cases where such visits were necessary because of exceptional circumstances.

XIII CONVALESCENT HOLIDAYS

Care at Convalescent Homes is arranged for those persons who require a period of convalescence as an aid for recovery from illness, and where such care is unobtainable from any other source (Benefit Society, Trade Union, Hospital etc.).

Patients are asked to contribute towards the cost of the stay at a Home if they are in a position to do so.

During the year arrangements were made for four persons to have a Convalescent Holiday.

Under the Conduct of Nursing Homes Regulations 1963, the following Nursing Homes are registered with this Authority:

Nursing Homes	No. of Beds		
	1972	1971	1970
Cheltondale, 84 Castle Road (Mrs. D.E.G. Holmes, Matron)	17	17	17
Dial House, 38 Park Avenue, (Mrs. E.G. Smith, Matron)	25	25	25

We welcome the efforts of the Fire Prevention Officer in advising the Proprietors of the Nursing Homes on fire precautions.

NURSING AGENCIES

Renewal of a licence to the British Nursing Association, 77a High Street, Bedford, to carry on an agency for the supply of nurses, as required by Section 2 of the Nursing Agencies Act, 1957, was made for a period of twelve months expiring at the end of the year.

XV YOUTH COUNSELLING SERVICE

There is at present a lack of facilities in Bedford to assist the adolescent to bridge the gulf between childhood and maturity, and there is a need to provide adolescents with a counselling service through which their various questions and problems concerning their relationships with others, and their anxieties associated with growing independence can be resolved.

To this end, a Youth Counselling Service which would be staffed by doctors and social workers with a special interest in this field has been set up.

It is proposed to offer the service without a formal referral procedure and to cater for young people between 16 - 22 years.

The service operates from the Medical Centre, Union Street, Bedford, on the first, third and fifth Mondays of each month from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm.

1 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948, the Medical Officer of Health has powers to cause the removal to hospital of certain persons who are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention. Although this power is infrequently used, the need for the Medical Officer of Health to be involved in such cases is not infrequent and through the efforts of the Geriatric Health Visitor and the General Practitioners and the support I can give to the General Practitioners, it is usual that the patient is admitted to hospital voluntarily, i.e. the patient agrees eventually to hospital admission.

Each year a small number of possible cases for action are referred to the Department but legal action is usually not necessary because care for the persons concerned is subsequently obtained.

2 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 - Section 169

During the year I applied for and obtained an Order pursuant to the above Section to remove to the hospital a patient who was an active open case of pulmonary tuberculosis.

The ability to employ such powers as these, although rarely used, is a necessary part of the weaponing of the Medical Officer of Health.

XVII MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONS

1 DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

	1972	1971	1970
No. of Bodies received into the Mortuary from			
(a) the Borough	56	33	29
(b) other areas	62	52	61
No. of Cremations from			
(a) the Borough	507	429	451
(b) other areas	718	756	731
No. of Earth Burials from			
(a) the Borough	210	233	228
(b) other areas	52	67	161

2 BOROUGH MORTUARY

Negotiations have taken place with the Local Hospital Authority and it is hoped to close the Borough Mortuary and use the proposed new facilities at the Bedford General Hospital (South Wing) when completed.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

There is much concern at the present time about pollution of the atmosphere, land and water. We in the Health Department endeavour to keep a careful watch on possible sources of pollution within the Borough and it is pleasing to report that no dangerous circumstances arose in 1972.

Some concern has been expressed about the condition of the stream in Silver Jubilee Park. Although obviously contaminated it has not yet been possible to say why or where this occurs, but a continuing watch is being kept. It is expected that the stream will eventually be culvetted.

4 CLEANSING STATION

The Cleansing Station is now seldom used but its retention is necessary to cope with particular cases of infestation and uncleanliness which cannot be treated in the home.

5 ECONOMIES IN THE USE OF ELECTRICITY

The National dispute between management and labour in the Electricity Industry early in the year made it necessary for steps to be taken in the Local Authority Services to ensure economy in the use of electricity.

In the Health Service the following arrangements were made:

<u>Clinics</u>	All medical services continued normally but sessions of a social or recreational nature were cancelled for a period.
<u>Midwifery</u>	Arrangements were made for the domiciliary midwives to have the opportunity to take their patients into the Maternity Unit of the Bedford General Hospital (North Wing) should the need arise.
<u>Field Staff</u>	Undertook priority visits to the elderly and other "at risk" groups to see that they were able to cope when power cuts arose.

It is pleasing to state that no great difficulties arose in the Local Health Services as a result of the dispute.

6 UGANDIAN ASIANS

As a result of the political situation in Uganda with the eviction of certain classes of Asians from that land, steps were prepared locally to cater for such persons if the need arose. However, only a few Asians from Uganda came to Bedford, and they were readily absorbed into the population and there were no difficulties in their re-settlement.

7 HEALTH EDUCATION - SMOKING AND HEALTH

The danger of cigarette smoking was again stressed during the year, and following upon the national campaign waged by the Central Council for Health Education, the British Medical Association, and other interested bodies, the Health Committee considered possible local action. It decided not to use dictatorial methods but to hold a display in the Public Library with suitable press coverage.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) in its plan of campaign for the year under review, suggested that emphasis should be given to "Winter Hazards" in the Home.

The Health Committee considered the RoSPA's programme and decided that an Exhibition should be staged.

The Library, Museum and Art Gallery Committee through the Borough Librarian (Mr. C. Hargreaves) gave use of the display area at the Library for an Exhibition to be held during the period 30 October to 18 November, 1972.

With the help of RoSPA, the Bedford and North Bedfordshire Home Safety Committee, a Working Party and Officers then organised the Exhibition and this was officially opened by His Worship The Mayor, Alderman H. Rischmiller on Monday, 30 October, 1972.

The display attracted much attention and the Health Committee were of the opinion that the Exhibition was worthwhile and should be repeated periodically.

1 GLAUCOMA SURVEY

It is timely that we should include in this report summaries of the most recent papers published by Professor E.S. Perkins:

"In a survey carried out between 1964 and 1966, 5,941 persons over the age of forty living in Bedford were screened for glaucoma. The ocular tensions were measured with the Goldmann applanation tonometer by a technician and the subjects were then seen by an ophthalmologist, who took a brief ocular history and family history and carried out an external examination and ophthalmoscopy. Subjects were referred for more detailed examination if the tension was 21mm. Hg. or more, if the optic discs appeared abnormal, and if there was a history of haloes or a family history of glaucoma. 55 cases of primary glaucoma (0.93 per cent) were detected as a result of the survey and a further 212 persons were advised to return annually for further examination (Banks, Perkins, Isolakis and Wright 1968). 190 of these attended on more than one occasion and this paper presents our findings after following 141 subjects for a period of 5 to 7 years.

A 5 to 7 year follow-up of 141 persons referred from the glaucoma survey because of ocular hypertension, suspicious discs, or a family history of glaucoma, showed that only five (3.54 per cent) developed glaucoma. Three had presented with ocular hypertension alone, one with ocular hypertension and a suspicious disc, and one with a suspicious disc without hypertension. Two further cases of chronic simple glaucoma are still being investigated, and if these cases are included the probable incidence of glaucoma in this series is 4.39 per cent.

In addition to the long term follow-up of borderline cases resulting from the Bedford Glaucoma Survey of 5,941 persons a sample of those who had been considered not to have glaucoma was re-examined after a period of 5 - 7 years. The purpose of this screening was to see if any cases of glaucoma had developed, to compare the tension readings of individuals at the beginning and end of the follow-up period, and to assess the value of visual field screening.

770 people who have been found to have no evidence of glaucoma on the Bedford Glaucoma Survey were re-screened 5 - 7 years later. In most subjects the tension readings were very similar on the second visit but twelve were found to have tensions of 21mm. Hg., or above. One of the twelve was diagnosed as having chronic simple glaucoma and another was thought to have early chronic simple glaucoma but without a demonstrable field defect. Three of the subjects with ocular hypertension had a field defect on rescreening and one was confirmed as having chronic simple glaucoma. 23 subjects had field defects on rescreening and two were diagnosed as having low tension glaucoma. Thus four cases of open angle glaucoma (two of chronic simple glaucoma and two of low tension glaucoma) were detected in subjects considered normal in the previous survey. A negative screening test for glaucoma does not exclude the development of the disease within 5 - 7 years."

Bedford (Local Authority Staff - Second Year)

Pilot PHLS studies of influenza vaccines were made in several areas during the winter of 1970/71. One of the objects of these studies was to gain experience of the practical difficulties of assessing influenza vaccines in various populations. In Bedford, the Local Authority staff at the Town Hall were invited to participate in the trial and are being asked again this year.

The participants, after a blood sample had been taken, were given influenza vaccine (Admune) and a second blood sample was taken four weeks later. The response of the vaccine was then measured, and throughout the winter a sickness absence of this group of volunteers was compared with non-participants.

This year we resumed this study, assessed the level of antibodies remaining in those who were vaccinated and judged the subsequent response to a booster dose of influenza vaccine.

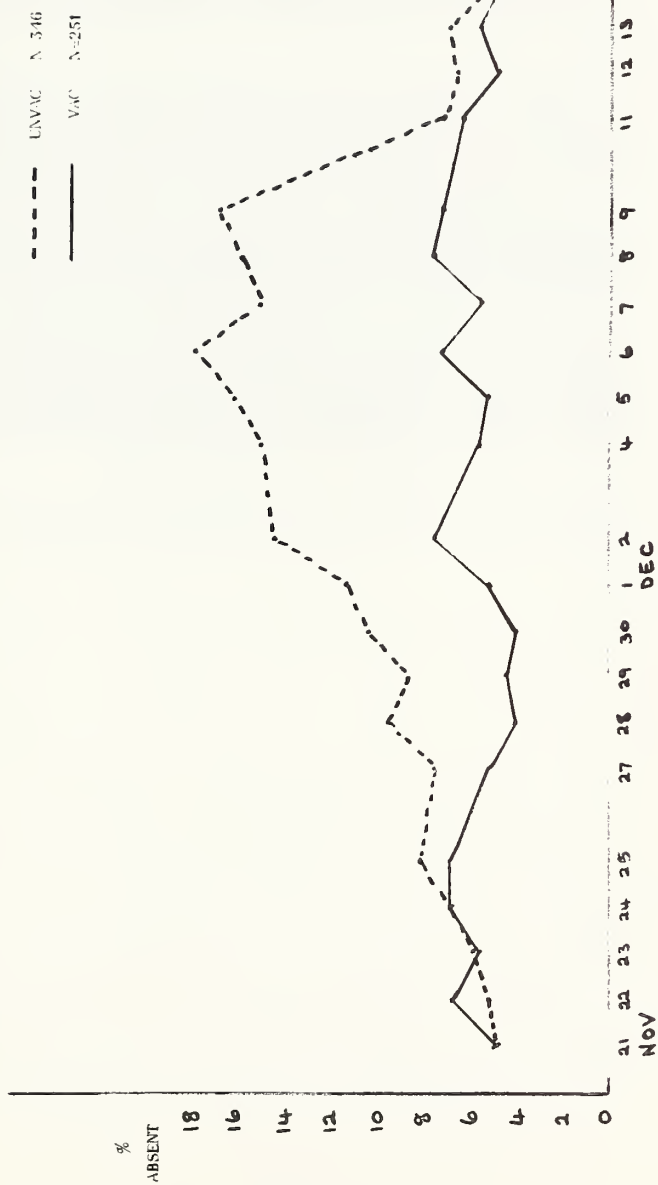
Bedford School

One of the objects of these studies was to gain experience of the practical difficulties of assessing influenza vaccines in various populations. These populations included "closed" communities such as boarding schools and universities, but "open" communities such as day schools and offices are also required, although the difficulties of producing adequate control group and close follow-up will be much greater in these locations. It will probably be impracticable to allocate personnel to vaccination in these "open" communities. Comparisons will thus have to be made between sickness absence in persons who volunteer for vaccination and those who do not. Such groups can never be similar in the same way as two groups constituted by random allocation, but it may be that the similarity will be adequate for the purpose of vaccine assessment if the sickness absence from all causes other than influenza is the same among those who volunteer and those who do not.

General Plan

Pupils were asked to participate in this trial and the consent of their parents sought. Those who consented were given influenza vaccine currently available in the U.K. Following vaccination the sickness absence in the vaccinated participants was compared with that in the unvaccinated group who did not volunteer, and the graph illustrates dramatically the effectiveness of the vaccine.

BLDFORD 1972-3



Since 1969, the two Bedford Teacher Training Colleges, together with other Universities in the country have been co-operating with the Public Health Laboratory Service to investigate the origin and development of glandular fever.

The problem of glandular fever has been studied for a half century, but little progress was made until the last few years when evidence began to accumulate that the disease was in fact due to infection with a newly discovered virus called the EB virus. The research in students has largely confirmed this view. Thus the samples taken on entry showed that two-thirds of the students had already been infected with the virus before coming to College. These students were found to have acquired immunity to glandular fever and none of them became ill. Glandular fever was only found among those students who had not been infected before they came to College and who encountered the virus for the first time during College life.

One of the interesting features was that symptoms caused by other viruses for example the Rubella virus - sometimes mimicked glandular fever, but it was possible to differentiate between these two types by a standard serum test. It was also interesting that although about 20% of the previously uninfected students became infected in a single year, only a small proportion of these developed glandular fever. Some had no symptoms at all; others had mild sore throats; and only about one third of those infected actually became ill. This observation is extremely valuable.

Finally, another virus called the Cytomegalovirus which sometimes produces symptoms similar to glandular fever in older people does not seem to do so in Students.

In recent years it has become clear that nutritional rickets has a higher incidence amongst coloured immigrant children than in the indigenous population.

In the last six years ten cases of nutritional rickets have been diagnosed in Bedford: most were coloured children between 1 and $2\frac{1}{2}$ years of age.

A pilot scheme, in association with the Consultant Paediatrician and Consultant Radiologist, has been in operation during the year, whereby a cohort of children are to be screened for early signs of rickets.

Rickets is a disease of nutrition occurring in early childhood affecting the growth of the bones. It is, essentially, due to the absence from the diet of Vitamin D in sufficient amounts to promote adequate calcification of the growing bones. The ultra violet rays of sunshine can manufacture Vitamin D in the skin. Hence all the conditions which prevent the free access of unfiltered sunshine to the skin of the growing infant may be regarded as predisposing to rickets.

In the Section on Welfare Foods, I have noted with satisfaction the increase in sales of both National Dried Milk and Vitamin Drops which, because of their Vitamin D content, prevent this disease.

This year has seen the completion of the ten year follow-up examinations of those found in the 1962 Survey to have mild or early diabetes. We have been pleased to find that many people, over the years, have reverted to normal and have been able to stop treatment with tablets. We nevertheless intend to continue a review of each individual to make sure that this remains the case and will also continue to review those who remain on treatment. The only difference between the first and second decade of the study will be that examinations will now be done on an annual rather than a six-monthly basis.

The 1962 division of people into three categories - normal, bordering diabetic and diabetic - has been justified by the fact that in ten years of follow-up none of the borderline diabetics has developed any of the specific complications of diabetes. This apparently simple piece of information is enormously valuable in terms of our understanding of diabetes and in itself has made the whole operation worthwhile.

We continue to receive excellent co-operation from those in the study and would once again like to express our gratitude to the people of Bedford and the Council, especially its Health Department, for many years of friendly and fruitful support.

Prof. Harry Keen
Department of Medicine
Guy's Hospital
London

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
TOWN HALL
BEDFORD

May 1973

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Bedford

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit the annual report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during 1972.

In May, the Department of the Environment requested a decisive drive on slums and older houses with an objective that within a decade, no-one should be required to live in an unfit or sub-standard house. A review of the houses in the Borough was undertaken and in October 1972, the council approved proposals for dealing with unfit and substandard properties during the period up to 1980. If the Government fails in its objective of improvement of houses by persuasion and the availability of grants, then no doubt consideration will be given to legislation requiring all houses to be provided with the standard amenities.

During the year, the Council requested that early action be taken to enlarge the area subject to smoke control orders. It is anticipated that each year an area containing 2,000 houses will be recommended for declaration as a smoke controlled area, until the Borough is completely covered. Such a programme will require the approval of the new District Council and may well involve other areas in the new district.

Details of ice-cream examinations are given in the report, and so far during 1973, all ice-cream samples have been graded 1 or 2.

It has been a demanding year with the number of complaints continuing to increase. With a staff vacancy existing throughout the year, it means that routine visits are reduced. This I regret.

We are now in the last year of local government as we know it. Changes will occur, departmental structures will alter, but service to the community must continue, and Public Health Inspectors are determined to pay their full part in the work of the New Bedford District Council.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their appreciation and co-operation in the work undertaken: to Dr. Mortimer and other Chief Officers for their willing help and advice, and to the Inspectors and staff of the Department for their loyal support during the year.

E.J. CONSTABLE

Chief Public Health Inspector.

(a) General Housing Conditions

1972 saw considerable activity in the housing field. Circular 50/72 issued by the Department of the Environment drew the attention of Local Authorities to the need to make a concerted effort to clear slums and improve older housing by 1980. The circular requested Local Authorities to ascertain the age and condition of the housing stock, both public and private, within their area. In the light of this information, Local Authorities were expected to review, and where necessary revise, their existing plans for the clearance or improvement of unsatisfactory housing by 1980, if not before.

The Health Departments review revealed that a total of 307 of the 333 unfit houses were situated in areas affected either by re-development programmes or road schemes and will be cleared by 1980. The remaining 26 dwellings will be dealt with under the Housing Act 1957 during the next five years.

It was estimated that a total of 270 houses were not capable of improvement to the full twelve point standard required by the Housing Acts and that the majority of these would also be cleared by 1980, as they are situated within proposed redevelopment areas.

The survey also revealed that in the main, the 2,348 dwellings in non-Local Authority ownership, which it was assumed could be improved to the full Housing Act standard, are situated in four main areas of the town. These areas are the Stanley Street area, the central Queens Park area, the southern Queens Park area and the Castle Road area. It is intended to survey these areas for consideration as General Improvement Areas. Every effort will be made to encourage owners to make use of Local Authority grants to improve property. At the same time as these activities in the private sector, the Council intends to rehabilitate and improve 1,356 Local Authority houses over a seven year period.

(b) Clearance Areas

Towards the end of the year, inspection of houses in the Albert Street, Queen Street, Wellington Street, Foster Street area was carried out with a view to clearance area action being taken during 1973 under Part III of the Housing Act 1957.

(c) Unfit Houses

Fifty-five houses were demolished. Four of the houses were in private ownership and three of the properties demolished had been previously subject to closing orders.

Part of the roofs of four houses in Cobden Street collapsed. Two of the houses were in private ownership and two were owned by the Council. Subsequently the two houses in private ownership were purchased by the Council and were closed pending demolition. One Closing Order was revoked, following the completion of works specified by the Department as sufficient to make the premises fit for human habitation. The original Closing Order was applied to the house in 1962. Demolition Orders were made on two houses.

Forty-four families, consisting of 100 persons were displaced from unfit dwellings. These properties should be demolished during 1973.

Since 1955 a total of 1,263 houses have been dealt with, of which 46 are still subject to closing orders, the remainder of the properties having been demolished.

(d) Improvement of Dwellings

Applications for improvement grants which were approved by the Department of Technical Services numbered 142. 113 of these were in respect of discretionary grants, 29 for standard grants.

A tenant may make application to the Local Authority with a view to the landlord of the property being required to carry out improvements. During 1972 four applications were received. The owner of each house was notified and given a copy of the representation made by the tenant. Discussions have taken place with the owners and they have agreed, in principle, to the installation of the standard amenities. One application was made to the Local Authority in 1971 and during 1973, after negotiations, the Council agreed to purchase the house concerned. The Council accepted the responsibility of providing the premises with standard amenities.

Twenty-one applications for Qualification Certificates were received from owners who proposed to carry out improvements to the properties and increase the rents. Two applications were outstanding from 1971. Thirteen applications were approved and a Provisional Qualification Certificate issued: two were withdrawn; two were refused; two were not eligible for the issue of a Qualification Certificate and the remaining four were outstanding at the end of 1972. After a Provisional Qualification Certificate has been issued, the owner contacts the Rent Officer in order to agree a fair rent. When the repairs and improvements have been completed, to the satisfaction of the Local Authority, a Qualification Certificate is issued with a copy being sent to the tenant. On receipt of the Qualification Certificate, the landlord is allowed to increase the rent. Nine Qualification Certificates were issued.

Twenty-nine applications for Qualification Certificates were received from owners of properties who stated that the standard amenities were already provided and there were seven applications still outstanding from 1971. Twenty-one of these applications were approved and twelve were refused on the grounds either that all standard amenities were not available or that the house was in need of repair. Three applications were outstanding at the end of the year.

The Housing Finance Act 1972 modified the procedures for converting from rent control to rent regulation tenancies of dwellings which had all the standard amenities and were in good repair; shortened the period over which the controlled rent was allowed to move up to the fair rent registered by the Rent Officer; and allowed landlords and tenants to agree the new rent between themselves if they would both prefer to do this rather than to apply to the Rent Officer to register a fair rent, in which case the Local Authority must be notified.

There will also be a general programme for conversion from rent control to rent regulation, in that all other controlled dwellings, except those which are unfit, will become regulated on specified dates.

(e) Other Amenities

Considerable encouragement is given to owners to improve their properties but it is not a legal requirement that a house shall have a bathroom. For many years an estimate has been made of the number of houses without fixed baths, the figure being reduced each year by the number of houses (without baths) which had been demolished and the number of houses which had been provided with baths; this latter figure being obtained from the Building Control Officer. In this way the figure at the end of 1972 is 1,450 houses.

It is interesting to note that the number of households without a fixed bath or shower as obtained during the 1971 Census (25th/26th April 1971) was 1,150, which represented 4.9% of the total number of households in the Borough. If the census figure is correct then the number of households without such facilities at the end of 1972 would be approximately 800, as during 1971 and 1972 some 300 houses were provided with bathrooms and 59 houses were demolished as unfit properties.

(f) General Improvement Area

The following is a report of Mr. M.A. Thrower, the Improvement Area Liaison Officer, who left to take up an appointment with Liverpool Improved Houses in January 1973.

"In the Ampthill Road General Improvement Area the environmental improvements are proceeding. Roads and pavements have been resurfaced, improved street lighting provided and the recreation ground reconstructed. Trees have been planted and existing verges to pavements reseeded.

It is intended to provide walk-ways through the area but in order to do so it is necessary for properties to be purchased and negotiations to this end have taken place. These have been protracted but hopes are high that some progress can be made during 1973.

The appearance of the central part of the area deteriorated during the year due to the demolitions being undertaken, rubbish being deposited on vacant sites and houses awaiting demolition were broken into even though properties had been sealed.

The Corporation improved ten houses during the year and loan sanction was approved in respect of five others. This is encouraging considering delays which were experienced in obtaining loan sanction approvals. In the private sector the number of applications for grants has increased. The total of 21 being received during the year, of which eight were in respect of tenanted houses. This shows an improvement on the previous year when only five grants were approved. Discussions have taken place with owners who have tenanted property in the area. The owners of four of the houses have submitted grant applications and it was expected that further applications for improvement grants will be made during 1973.

During the year the Improvement Area Liaison Officer attended four meetings of the Residents Association and eight meetings of their Management Committee. At these meetings the residents have shown a great interest in the progress of the environmental improvements and as well as bringing numerous matters needing attention to the notice of the Liaison Officer. The Residents Management Committee have been particularly helpful in giving their opinions

on proposed schemes of improvements, as well as suggesting uses for open sites and other facilities which would be of benefit to the community. They have endeavoured to get a second telephone box for the area and to arrange for a mobile library to visit the district. Assistance has been given to the Residents Association by the Council as far as possible and newsletters have been printed on their behalf for circulation to residents in the area in order to stimulate the interest in their activities, and in the area as a whole.

The past year had raised hopes of success in improving this area but it is essential that the vacant sites be developed as quickly as possible in order to prevent further blight in the central portion of the area. Unless this is done many residents may become discouraged.

In October 1972 the Council approved the following programme for the consideration of general improvement areas:

Stanley Street Area	1973
Central Queens Park Area	1974
Southern Queens Park Area	1975
Castle Road Area	1976/77

The survey of the Stanley Street area is being undertaken and consideration will be given as to the declaration of this part of the town as a general improvement area when the details of the survey are available."

(g) Houses in Multiple Occupation

It is estimated that 782 houses are in multiple occupation. Specific standards in respect of amenities, overcrowding etc are not prescribed in any Housing Act for multi-occupied dwellings, and in this respect the Local Authority has wide discretionary powers. The Council decide, in any particular circumstances, what standard of facilities are required. It is, however, necessary that some standard be adopted by which houses in multiple occupation can be judged suitable for occupation and also to enable owners or prospective purchasers to know what works are required to bring multi-occupied dwellings up to an acceptable standard.

Standards were originally approved by the Council in 1962 following the introduction of the Housing Act 1961. Details of the facilities required in multi-occupied houses, are supplied to owners or prospective purchasers on request. The standards have been enforced for over ten years, and it is found that, in general, owners provide adequate facilities in the way of hot water, baths, wash-hand basins and sanitary accommodation.

A total of 610 inspections were made of houses in multiple occupation. One Management Order was revoked, the house having reverted to single occupation.

No applications for certificates of dis-repair were received.

46 investigations were made regarding illegal eviction or harassment in an endeavour to evict tenants. In 34 cases the difficulties were resolved or it was decided that evidence was insufficient to enable legal proceedings to be instituted. One case was referred to the Rent Tribunal, one complainant was not willing to be involved in legal proceedings, and four complainants moved to other accommodation and were unable to be traced.

It was decided to institute legal proceedings in six cases with the following results:

- No. 1 - Fined £5
- No. 2 - Fined £30
- No. 3 - Fined £20
- No. 4 - not proceeded with - prosecution taken by Police.
- No. 5 - complainant moved to Northern Ireland after issue of Summons - did not return.
- No. 6 - referred to Crown Court on application of defendant - case dismissed without defence evidence being heard.

Three investigations were made regarding the overcharging of rent. Two cases were resolved and legal proceedings were instituted in the third with a result that the landlord was fined £10 and ordered to repay the excess rents which had been charged.

Allegations of harassment and illegal eviction received by the Department showed an increase of eleven instances on 1971 and continued to absorb a considerable amount of time. Many landlords fail to realise that a tenant must be given at least 28 days notice to quit. On receipt of any intimation from the landlord to vacate accommodation, the tenant is more likely than not to appeal to the Rent Tribunal.

The Rent Tribunal deal with the assessment of a fair rent, but is able to give the tenant security of tenure for a period of time not exceeding six months. In many instances, the tenant appeals to the Tribunal, not to seek a reduction in rent, but to acquire additional security.

Some landlords are also under the impression that they can increase rent after a tenant has vacated accommodation for which the Tribunal has previously set a rent limit. This is not so. The rent cannot be increased without reference to the Rent Tribunal by the landlord. A landlord who increases his rent without reference back to the Rent Tribunal can be prosecuted and required to repay any rent overcharged.

(a) Drainage and Sewerage

286 drains were tested or inspected on complaint, and where necessary works of repair or reconstruction were carried out. It was necessary to clear blockages in the drains at 555 premises.

Repairs or reconstruction of sewers were carried out at 33 premises of which 6 were emergency works, when immediate action was necessary. In some cases the works were carried out by the owners of the properties and in others repairs were undertaken by the Local Authority and the cost recovered from the owners. Four notices were served under Section 17 of the Public Health Act 1961 which requires an owner to clear a stopped up drain within 48 hours. In two cases the work was carried out by the Local Authority in default and the cost charged to the owner, and in the other instances the work was carried out by the owners.

(b) Water Supply

All house properties have an internal water supply from the public mains with the exception of two houses in Cardington Road.

A number of complaints have been received from householders of insufficient water supply. These normally arise from houses in the older part of the town where as many as ten premises might be supplied by one service pipe.

Over the years appliances for providing hot water have been installed in the houses resulting in a gradual loss of water pressure. When complaints are received investigations are made to see if they are justified. Where the supply is proved to be inadequate the Council have agreed to pay grant towards a separate supply pipe to each house under the provisions of Section 96 of the Housing Act 1964.

(c) Moveable Dwellings

There are no licensed caravan sites within the Borough. Caravans continued to be stationed on the road verge near to Cardington Cross (within the Borough) and at the end of the year 2 vans remained.

Proposals for a gypsy caravan site in the Bedford Rural District between Cardington and Cople have been made by the Bedfordshire County Council and this proposal was the subject of a public inquiry during 1973. It is a difficult situation but one which must be resolved as the present unauthorised parking is quite unsatisfactory.

Visits were made to the fairs and circuses which are held in the Borough.

(d) Disinfestation

Treatment was given at 147 premises for the eradication of various insect pests, 72 of which were in respect of wasps nests. A charge of £1.25 is made for the treatment and destruction of wasps nests but discretion is exercised in cases of hardship.

(a) Food Hygiene

The inspection of food premises comprises a major part of the Public Health Inspector's work but unfortunately with the increase in the amount of incoming work and a shortage of staff, it has not always been possible to give this aspect of the work the emphasis which is necessary. Consequently, the number of inspections of restaurants and cafes was less than in 1971. Reference was made in last year's report to the fact that in some instances, it was possible for food premises to open in the town without planning permission having to be obtained. The situation has improved somewhat with the coming into operation of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1972. Planning permission is now necessary for any shop to change to a restaurant, snack bar or cafe. This should help prevent the unfortunate situation arising of cafes and restaurants being opened in unsatisfactory premises.

(b) Food Control(i) Food Sampling and Complaints

188 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. 66 were milk samples and 122 samples of other food. In addition, 83 complaints were received regarding food. This is a small increase of 7 complaints over 1971 and continues to reflect the public's keen interest in food hygiene.

The following table lists the instances where legal proceedings were instituted:

<u>Article</u>	<u>Nature of complaint or Adulteration</u>	<u>Result of Legal Proceedings</u>
Chocolate Eclairs	contaminated with mould	Fined £10
Steak & Kidney Pie	contaminated with mould	Fined £30
Steak & Kidney Pie	contaminated with mould	Fined £10
Chicken & Ham Pie	contaminated with mould	Fined £15
Swiss Breakfast Food	containing cigarette end	Fined £50
Gooseberry Pie	contaminated with mould	Fined £15
Gooseberry Pie	contaminated with mould	Fined £15
Pork Pie	contaminated with mould	Fined £10

One investigation which has particular relevance now that we are members of the European Economic Community occurred during the year. The Department was notified by another authority that it had taken samples of blue Sugared Almonds manufactured in Italy and imported and distributed from Bedford, which were found to contain a colouring matter, permitted in the E.E.C. but not in this country. Although the colouring matters permitted in food for intra community trade are shortly to be standardised, it was necessary to write to the Italian manufacturers pointing out the contravention and suggesting an alternative colour.

A further investigation arose from the complaint that a well known soft drink being sold from premises in the town was "watery". A sample was taken and the complaint justified to the extent that the drink was found to contain 18% of extraneous water. An investigation by the District Public Health Inspector

revealed that the water was due to excessive pressure of Carbon Dioxide gas in the carbonisation tank of the dispenser resulting in an incorrect mixture of water and soft drink concentrate at the nozzle head. The Management were informed and a follow up sample taken later were found to be satisfactory.

Many of the complaints and all but one of the prosecutions related to food affected with mould. This is particularly disconcerting because it reveals that despite the efforts of the Department in health education, handouts from the trade and continued publicity of one sort and another many shopkeepers remain unaware of the necessity to check and rotate stock.

(ii) Date Stamping

Mention was made in last year's report of considerable consumer interest in the date stamping of food. In July the Food Standards Committee Report on the date marking of food was published and the Government has now accepted most of the Committee's recommendations. The report recommended that in order to increase the protection of the consumer, to assist the retail trade and to aid in the enforcement of the law, that a comprehensive system of open date marking of prepared foods should be introduced. It was stated that regulations should come into effect in three years time in order to allow for full discussion of the detailed proposals and the necessary changes in practices and packaging machinery. There would be a few exemptions such as pre-packed fresh fruit and vegetables.

The report continued that for open date marking, food should be divided into two main groups, short life foods and long life foods. Short life foods should be those which the manufacturers considered should be sold within three months. They would be required to show a "sell-by" date conspicuously on the label. Long life foods the Committee recommended should show a date of manufacture or of pre-packing which could be used for stock rotation and which would show the age of the individual packages.

The regulations to bring these recommendations into effect will be made under the Food and Drugs Acts of which the general provisions in relation to nature, substance or quality and fitness would continue to apply to the condition of the food when sold. It would not be an offence to sell food after a "sell-by" date.

Open date marking therefore will come into general effect in 1975 although some manufacturers have already started voluntarily stamping their products.

(c) Ice Cream

The number of registered ice cream premises is 291. This is an increase of 10 on the previous year. Although the results of samples submitted for examination during 1971 had shown an improvement over the samples taken during 1970, it was not considered that the results had reached a satisfactory standard, and in view of this, from the beginning of 1972, the number of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory was increased. A total of 282 samples being examined during the year.

Vanilla ice cream is tested by means of a Methylene Blue reduction test and the sample is timed as to how long it takes to be de-colourised. The rate at which the Methylene Blue de-colourises reflects the number of bacteria which have grown during the test. As a result of this the sample is placed in a provisional grade of either 1, 2, 3 or 4. It is recommended that over a six month period not more than 20% of a vendor's samples should fall into grade 3 and none into grade 4. A statutory bacteriological standard of cleanliness for ice cream has not been prescribed, and so far no available bacteriological standard is precise enough to be made statutory. Local Authorities are advised to continue to look to the Methylene Blue test for a provisional measurement of the bacterial cleanliness of ice cream.

At the end of a six month period the results of three producers were forwarded to the manufacturers and to the Local Authorities in whose area the plants were situated.

Results for the year were as follows:-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>	
1	110	39.1%
2	90	31.9%
3	56	19.8%
4	26	9.2%

These results refer to the whole year but following the notification to manufacturers and Local Authorities an improvement occurred during November when 25 samples were taken and one was classified as being in grade 3 and one in grade 4; this improvement continued during December, when 19 samples were submitted for examination, one being placed in grade 3 and none in grade 4.

(d) Imported Food

Under the requirements of the Imported Food Regulations 1968 the following notifications were received of food destined for delivery in Bedford without having been examined at the port of entry:

Newport

- (1) One notification involving 300 bags of milk crumb.
- (2) 47 notifications involving 16,486 bags of chocolate crumb.
- (3) One notification involving 1,050 cartons of tinned apples.

Liverpool

2 notifications involving 1,134 cartons of apricot pulp.

Bristol

3 notifications involving 2,200 cartons and 1 container of biscuits.

Manchester

4 notifications involving 9,608 cartons of biscuits.

These consignments are examined on their arrival in Bedford and if necessary samples are taken.

- (e) Milk and Dairies (General Regulations) 1959
Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1963-1965

All milk sold in this area is processed outside of the town.

307 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. 223 of the samples were of pasteurised milk, 43 were samples of sterilised milk and 41 of ultra heat treated milk. All the milk undergoes statutory tests at the Public Health Laboratory, principally to test its keeping quality. In the event of failure, repeat samples are taken and checks made on storage and delivery times.

5 SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1958
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

The number of animals slaughtered at the one private abattoir in the town showed a decrease in 1972 compared with the previous year. The figure of 16,203 in 1972 was a decrease of 3,525 and gave an income from inspection charges for the year of £1226.78 as opposed to £1172.46 for 1971. The increase in income is due to the fact that late in 1971 the inspection charges were increased and this increase was reflected throughout the whole of 1972.

10 licences were issued to slaughtermen.

6 ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

- (a) Smoke Control Areas

On the 21st April the Department of the Environment confirmed the Borough's No. 7 Smoke Control Order making the Ampthill Road General Improvement Area a smoke control area. The Borough's first smoke control order became operative on the 1st September 1959 and on the 1st October 1973, which is the operative date for the No. 7 Area, it is estimated that 11,430 properties covering an area of 2,469 acres will be subject to smoke control orders.

In June 1972 approval was given for a postal survey of houses south of the River to be undertaken to ascertain the probable costs of the proposed No. 8 Area. Following the survey it was decided that the part of the town to the west of the main London Road surrounding the existing No. 7 Area should be recommended as the Council's next smoke control area.

On the No. 7 Area grants totalling £1,006 were paid towards conversion costs. Four applications for a 100% grant in cases of hardship were approved.

- (b) Installation of New Furnaces

Under the 1968 Clean Air Act prior approval of the height of a chimney to serve a furnace must be obtained from the Local Authority where the furnace burns solid fuel at a rate of 100 lbs per hour or more or burns liquid or gaseous fuel at a rate in excess of 1½ million B.T.U. per hour.

One application for prior approval for the installation of a furnace was received and approved.

(c) National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution

The four recording stations for the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide continued to be operated in co-operation with the Warren Spring Laboratory as part of the National Survey. The National Survey has now been operating since 1961 and during 1972 the Department of the Environment issued a report on its findings during the first ten years for the south east region which includes Bedford. The Department comments in its reference to Bedford:

"The pattern of pollution is again entirely as would be expected, the worst readings being the sites on the valley floor in the older part of the town with its mixture of dense housing and engineering industry. All these sites still have smoke greatly in excess of the regional average of 44 microgrammes per cubic metre. For sulphur dioxide the concentration at the town centre (Harpur Street) is also greatly in excess of the Regional Urban Average of 91 microgrammes per cubic metre, but concentrations at the other valley sites are now either equal to or only a little above this average.

The site at the Queen's Drive clinic is in low density housing on the higher ground on the north east edge of the town; the smoke is low (smoke control); the sulphur dioxide is about equal to the Regional Average whereas, for such a position on the outskirts, much lower figures might have been expected. The ratio of sulphur dioxide to smoke is normal corresponding to the more modern conditions. All these results lead to the same conclusion as for Luton, that natural dispersion is not good and here extra care is needed in controlling emissions.

Figures available in the reports from readings taken over the past ten years indicate that there is an overall downward trend of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations in the town."

The report makes the following comment concerning the brickworks:

"It would be wrong to leave any discussion of air pollution in Bedford without mentioning the brickworks. When the wind is in the south west the whole town can be invaded by the malodorous sulphur compounds produced in the works and filled with a stench rather like that of burning rubber. On amenity grounds this far outweighs the unpleasantness of smoke or sulphur dioxide. Unfortunately there would as yet seem to be no practical method available for preventing or even reducing this nuisance."

It is proposed that a Committee be set up to exchange ideas and information on air pollution in the Fletton Brick industry, such Committee to include representatives from the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate, the Fletton Brick industry and the County Councils of Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridge and the Isle of Ely, and Huntingdon and Peterborough.

The brickworks are registered under the Alkali Works Regulation Act 1906 and are controlled by the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate, nevertheless, the Clean Air Acts will be the responsibility of District Councils and it would be advantageous for the Bedford District Council to be represented upon the proposed Committee.

7 OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY
 PREMISES ACT 1963

1,040 premises are registered with the Borough Council in accordance with the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.

This is an increase of 12 premises compared with 1971, 33 registrations having been cancelled for various reasons. 469 visits were made to premises at which 221 were full inspections. No exemptions from the provisions of the Act were granted.

Occupiers of premises are required to report accidents occurring on their premises which causes the death of a person or disables a person for more than three days from doing his usual work. It is felt that occupiers are not fully aware of this requirement and in general notification is received from the larger establishments. During inspections reference is made to the section of the Act requiring the notification of accidents and it is also a practice to refer to this requirement when communications are forwarded to occupiers. 35 accidents were reported during the year. Most accidents were of a minor nature but where it was considered necessary each accident was investigated by the District Public Health Inspector.

Once again as in previous years conditions were found to be generally satisfactory. Contraventions tended to be of a minor nature which could be easily and inexpensively remedied. Continued co-operation with the Building Control and Planning staff whereby plans of new buildings or extensions of buildings are examined by the Public Health Inspector at an early stage ensures that requirements of the Act are complied with and also allows for suggestions for improvements to be made at the most appropriate time.

Details of registration of premises, the number of persons employed and the number of accidents which have been notified are given at the end of this report.

8 FACTORIES ACT 1961

45 inspections of factories in connection with the above Act were made. Under the provisions of the Factories Act Local Authorities are responsible for the enforcement of the Sanitary Accommodation Regulations only in factories using mechanical power. In factories, now few in number, where mechanical power is not used, Local Authorities are responsible for the enforcement of a wider range of functions including cleanliness, overcrowding, ventilation, temperature control etc.

294 premises were surveyed. 152 were found to be infested with rats or mice and treatment was carried out by the Local Authority's rodent control staff. At private premises treatment is carried out free of charge but at business premises a charge of £1.10 per man hour is made for treatment.

Contracts were entered into and the sum of £77.00 received.

Treatment of sewers was carried out, 500 manholes being baited. This work was undertaken by a private firm under contract to the Council.

In 1968 treatment for rats was carried out at 255 properties. This figure has decreased each year, with one exception (1971), that for 1972 being 88 properties. The number of properties treated for mice has shown a different trend. 47 properties in 1968 rising to 86 in 1970 and down to 64 in 1972.

A block rodent survey of the area bounded by Prebend Street, Commercial Road, Midland Road, River Street, was carried out following complaints of rodent activity in the area. Test baits were laid but no evidence of infestations was discovered.

10 NOISE

A total of 58 complaints regarding noise was received by the Department. All the complaints were investigated and in four instances action was taken under the Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act 1969 referred to later in this report. 14 of the complaints referred to noise from seven industrial or commercial premises.

Noise complaints arise principally where industry is sited adjacent to houses. Over the years companies expand, new machinery is installed and on occasions little thought is given to any noise nuisance it might cause to residents in the area. Where a nuisance does occur an informal approach with appropriate advice is often sufficient to secure its abatement. On no occasion was it necessary to take formal action under the Noise Abatement Act of 1960, although at the end of the year investigations were being undertaken regarding complaints of noise from a bakehouse.

Two instances of road drills being used by contractors without satisfactory silencers were reported and these complaints were dealt with. In many cases the District Public Health Inspector would raise such complaints with contractors in his day to day routine round the town before complaints were received in the office.

A number of enquiries regarding noise from barking dogs and noisy neighbours were received, advice was given and where applicable informal action taken.

Discussions are still taking place with the Company concerned following a consultant's investigation into the appropriate measures for controlling wind tunnel noise.

(a) Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act 1969

A number of complaints of noisy parties or nuisance from bonfire smoke is received annually and where a nuisance is proved, and co-operation is not forthcoming it is appropriate to use the statutory powers invested in the Council by the above Act.

Three Prohibition Notices were served following complaints of noisy parties and one notice served on a householder, following complaints from adjoining houses of persistent bonfire smoke.

In two cases following non-compliance with Prohibition Notices (noisy parties), legal proceedings were authorised. One case was proved and a Nuisance Order made by the Court, but in the second case, the person responsible for causing the nuisance disappeared before the summons could be served.

(b) Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951

Three premises are registered.

(c) Pet Animals Act 1951

Six premises are registered and all have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

(d) National Assistance Act 1948 - Section 50 Burial or Cremation of the Dead

Funerals of 16 persons were undertaken as no other arrangements had been made. The following table gives details showing the cost of burial or cremation and recovery of expenses:

No.	Age (Years)	Sex	Cost of Burial or Cremation	Recovery of Expenses
1	43	Male	£28.55	Full cost recovered
2	38	Male	£28.55	Full cost recovered
3	93	Female	£36.55	Nil - Death Grant not payable
4	88	Female	£28.55	Full cost recovered
5	63	Male	£28.55	Full cost recovered
6	3	Female	£27.50	Nil - Death Grant not payable
7	3	Male	£27.50	Part cost recovered
8	64	Female	£33.55	Part cost recovered
9	77	Female	£28.55	Part cost recovered
10	7 weeks	Male	£10.85	Part cost recovered
11	33	Male	£31.10	Part cost recovered
12	68	Male	£31.10	Part cost recovered
13	50	Male	£28.55	Part cost recovered
14	5 days	Male	£19.10	Part cost recovered
15	19 months	Female	£12.95	Part cost recovered
16	64	Female	£28.55	Full cost recovered

Death grant is not payable on the death of any man born before 5 July 1883 or on the death of any woman born before 5 July 1888.

The amount of the grant depends upon the age of the person who has died and whether or not the National Insurance contribution conditions are fulfilled. In all cases a claim for grant is submitted to the Department of Health and Social Security.

(e) Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

13 premises are registered.

(f) Diseases of Animals Act 1951

Staff were on duty at the Cattle Market in Commercial Road whenever a sale was held. The latter part of the year saw a nationwide outbreak of swine vesicular disease and in order to try to control its effects, stringent measures were taken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Bedford Borough was included in a Control Area which came into operation as from midnight, 19th January 1973.

It is necessary under the Regulation of Movement of Swine Order 1959 to issue a licence for the movement of pigs from Bedford Market.

During the year 1375 licences were issued involving 40957 animals.

(g) Shops Act 1950 to 1965

This Act deals with the hours of closing, conditions of employment and Sunday trading in shops.

In January 1972 an application was received from a large store in the town to be exempted from the provision that every shop should be closed for the serving of customers not later than 1.00pm in the afternoon on one week-day in every week.

It was decided by the Recreation Amenities and Licensing Committee that a survey should be held of all traders in the town centre and at the request of the Chamber of Trade this survey was extended to all shops in the Borough.

Voting papers with explanatory literature were delivered to all shops and the poll was publicised in the local press. 461 voting papers were returned and as a result an order was made exempting 21 classes of trade from the requirement to close on one half day each week.

In co-operation with Mander College an elementary course in food hygiene was once again arranged and although some alterations have been made in the form and content of the lectures this course has now been a feature of the College year since 1957. In that time 481 students have obtained the Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate issued by the Department, 15 of them being successful last year.

The students receive both a diploma and a badge and it is interesting to note the number of badges being worn by the staff of food shops in the town.

Some students also choose to sit an external examination organised by the Royal Society of Health and many of them have been successful in obtaining this more advanced Diploma.

In addition the Public Health Inspectors give talks to schools, colleges and local organisations and also arrange practical visits for student nurses and health visitors.

At the end of the year a short feature was included in "Town Talk" in the Bedfordshire Times and it is hoped to continue publishing similar articles during 1973. A series of articles on food hygiene has also been prepared for the "Town Crier".

13

MISCELLANEOUS(a) Tipping of Toxic Waste

The indiscriminate tipping of toxic waste and refuse in various parts of the country caused a considerable amount of anxiety in the early part of the year. This resulted in the passing of the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act 1972. As there is a private tip in the town investigations were carried out at the time to establish if toxic waste was being deposited. The owners of the land informed the Department that the two drivers authorised to tip on the site were instructed not to deposit any suspect waste materials. A number of oil drums were examined visually and found to contain no more than water or bitumen.

Samples from one drum were examined at the Borough Water Pollution Control Works and found to contain a very strong caustic solution. This drum was removed and disposal of the contents undertaken at the Works.

(b) Polluted Ditch

A number of complaints were received of a foul smell from a ditch near the Borough Boundary. It was found upon investigation that this ditch carried water from a marshy area of land to the river. The area of marsh land was polluted with raw sewage. A joint meeting between the Health Department, the Department of Technical Services and a neighbouring authority found that a surface water sewer discharged to this marsh land. The pollution had occurred when the surface water sewer had become contaminated with sewage due to a defect in the construction of the foul sewer. The neighbouring local authority who were responsible for the maintenance of this sewer took immediate action to remedy the defect.

(c) Medical Arrangements for long Stay Immigrants

Details of arrivals of long stay immigrants who state their intention to reside in Bedford are received from the place of disembarkation and all immigrants are visited and invited to report to the Medical Officer of Health and to complete a short questionnaire of their medical history mainly with a view of excluding the possibility of active tuberculosis. 94 notifications, a reduction of 48 on 1971, were received and of these it was discovered that 5 had already moved to the area of another authority. The local authority to whose area they had moved were notified.

(d) Water Sampling

Water samples are taken from household taps, public and private swimming pools, school swimming pools and from the river at Clapham Pumping Station and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

289 samples were submitted and a breakdown of the samples and the results are given in the table in the Medical Officer of Health's report on page 13

During the past nine or ten years a number of small swimming pools have been installed at primary schools in the town. A routine has been established where the chlorine content, the pH value and the bacteriological quality of the water is checked at regular intervals.

The Public Health Inspector acts in an advisory capacity and on occasions it has been necessary to advise on chlorinating and filtering procedures.

During the summer bacteriological samples of the water at Goldington Road School Pool revealed that the water was contaminated. Further sampling of the water showed that the contamination occurred overnight in the filter unit. The pump circulating the water at this particular pool was turned off at night to prevent complaints of noise from adjoining premises. It appeared that while the water was not circulating the chlorine in the filter unit was absorbed by the filtered debris so allowing bacteria to multiply. The result being that when the pump re-started contaminated water was discharged directly into the pool. The Education Officer was advised that the pump must be on a continuous 24 hour, seven day week cycle if future contamination was to be prevented.

1. Housing

No. of Houses demolished:-

Private Ownership 4

Owned by Local Authority	51
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No. of families displaced	44
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No. of persons displaced	100
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2. Houses in Multiple Occupation

Number of premises estimated as Houses in Multiple Occupation at 31 December 1972	782
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3 Housing Act 1969

Number of applications for Qualification Certificates where improvements are proposed	21
Number of Provisional Qualification Certificates issued	13
Number of Qualification Certificates issued	9
Number of applications for Qualification Certificates where standard amenities are already provided	29
Number of applications approved	21

4 Food Inspection

(A) Number of Premises

	No.
Bakehouses	15
Brewery and Soft Drink Manufacturers	1
Butchers	36
Cafes and Restaurants	64
Canteens (Works and Schools)	82
Confectioners	65
Fishmongers (including Fish Fryers)	17
Food Storage Depots	20
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	30
Grocery and Provisions	84
Licensed Premises	120
Sweet and Chocolate Manufacturers	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Supermarkets	19
Cheese Manufacturer	1
Meat Packing Plant	3

In addition there are 42 food stalls on the market square, as follows:

Confectionery	3
Fish	3
Snack Bars	2
Fruit and Vegetables	32
Poultry	2

There are no Poultry Processing Plants in the Borough.

(B) Samples sent to Public Analyst

Nature of Sample	Informal	Formal
Dripping	-	1
Confectionery - Sugar	8	-
Fish, Tinned and Fish Pastes	3	-
Fruit Juices	6	-
Groceries, Miscellaneous	60	-
Ice Cream	12	-
Meat and Meat Products	18	1
Medicines and Drugs	6	-
Milk	66	-
Minerals	2	2
Spirits	-	3
	181	7

(C) Dairies and Milk Distribution

Milk Distributors	82
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(D) Milk (Special Designations) Licences

	<u>No. of Licences</u>						
Ultra-heat treated	39
Pasteurised Milk	80
Sterilised Milk	46
							<hr/>
							165
							<hr/>

(E) Examination of Specially Designated Milk

Designation of Milk	Samples Submitted	Methylene Blue Test*		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Colony Count Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	223	213	8	223	-	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	43	-	-	-	-	43	-	-	-
U.H.T.	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	2

* The Methylene Blue Test in respect of 2 pasteurised samples was invalid as the atmospheric shade temperature exceeded 65°F

(F) Slaughterhouse

(1) Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle (ex- cluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Goats	Pigs	Total
Number Killed and inspected	3,518	66	166	3,943	6	8,504	16,203
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	1	8	-	5	15
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,009	7	1	501	-	1,101	2,619
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticercosis	28.7	10.6	1.2	12.9	-	13.0	16.3
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	38	39
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.03	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.2
<u>Cysticercus Bovis</u>							
Carcasses with some part or organ condemned	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(2) Meat Weight Condemned

Class of Animal	Tuberculosis			Other Diseases			Total Lbs
	Whole Carcase	Part Carcase & Offal	Lbs.	Whole Carcase	Part Carcase & Offal	Lbs.	
Cattle (excluding cows)	-	1	40	1	1,009	12,570	12,610
Cows	-	-	-	-	7	100	100
Calves	-	-	-	1	1	56	56
Sheep & Lambs	-	-	-	8	501	2,246	2,246
Pigs	1	38	439	5	1,101	5,052	5,491
Total	1	39	479	15	2,619	20,024	20,503

(G) Other Foods Condemned

<u>Class of Food</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Meat and meat products	794
Bacon	25
Meat, English, retail shops	1,206
" " wholesale	1,017
Meat Imported, retail shops	54
" " wholesale	16
Cooked Meat and Meat Products	147
Fish	857
Fruit and vegetables	1,531
Frozen Foods	972
Ice Cream	797
Chocolate	37
Miscellaneous Groceries	497
Flour and Cereals	215
Butter and Cheese	99
Poultry	115
Other	7,040
TOTAL	<u>15,419</u>

Suspended Matter Expressed as Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Month	Putnoe Clinic Queen's Drive	Allens Works	Albert Street	Barford Avenue Clinic
January	56	72	70	60
February	50	72	57	61
March	40	62	65	59
April	N	N	N	N
May	9	18	14	11
June	8	14	9	14
July	7	10	7	10
August	8	14	10	11
September	68	92	59	89
October	30	76	58	54
November	71	86	78	77
December	65	76	57	89
Yearly Average	37	54	44	49

Sulphur Dioxide by the Volumetric Method Expressed as
Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Month	Putnoe Clinic Queen's Drive	Allens Works	Albert Street	Barford Avenue Clinic
January	70	95	97	97
February	61	91	74	76
March	34	76	58	58
April	N	N	N	N
May	26	58	41	34
June	24	41	29	39
July	15	33	17	27
August	20	32	24	31
September	35	55	32	53
October	61	80	60	59
November	94	117	89	111
December	75	111	74	147
Yearly Average	47	72	54	67

N = No result.

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered during the year	Total No. of Premises Registered at end of the year	No. of Premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	16	360	77
Retail Shops	22	535	101
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	3	70	14
Catering Establishments open to the public and canteens	4	75	29
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
Totals	45	1040	221

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

469

TABLE C - EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES OR WORKPLACE

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>No. of Persons Employed</u>
Offices	6133
Shops	4166
Wholesale Departments and Warehouses	609
Catering Establishments open to the public	734
Canteens	93
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	<u>11735</u>
Total - Males 5389	Total - Females 6346

TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS

There were no exemptions granted during 1972.

TABLE E - PROSECUTIONS

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in 1972 - NIL
 No. of Complaints (or summary applications) made under Section 22 - NIL
 No. of Interim Orders granted - NIL

TABLE F - INSPECTORS

No. of Inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act - 8
 No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act - Nil

ACCIDENTS
 Workplace and Sex

Class of Workplace	Adults over 18 years		Young Persons under 18 years	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Offices	2	6	-	-
Retail Shops	5	11	3	2
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	3	-	-	-
Catering Establishments	2	-	-	-
Canteens	-	1	-	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	12	18	3	2

ACCIDENTS

Primary Cause	Type of Injury					Total
	Fractures & Dislocation	Sprains and Strains	Open Wounds & Surface Injury	Bruising Crushing Concussion	Burns	
Handling Goods	2	5	3	-	-	10
Use of Hand Tools	-	-	3	-	-	3
Falls on the same level	4	1	1	-	-	6
Falls from one level to another	-	1	-	-	-	1
Falls on or from ladders or step-ladders	1	-	-	-	-	1
Falls on or from fixed stairs	1	2	-	-	-	3
Fire & Explosion	-	-	-	-	2	2
Struck by falling objects	-	-	-	4	-	4
Stepping on or striking against object or person	1	2	-	2	-	5
TOTAL	9	11	7	6	2	35

7. Factories Act 1961

(A) Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	14	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	223	29	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	39	2	-	-
TOTAL	271	45	-	-

(B) Cases in which defects were found

PARTICULARS	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which proceedings were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act - (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

(c) Outwork

	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases in default of sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel (Making, Clean- ing & Washing)	29	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-	-

There is a Nil return for all other types of outwork

8. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Premises Inspected and Treated

Properties Other Than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	269	-
(b) Number infested by :-		
(i) Rats	88	-
(ii) Mice	62	-
2(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	25	-
(b) Number infested by :-		
(i) Rats	-	-
(ii) Mice	2	-

9 Disinfestation

Total number of premises disinfested	147
No. of premises treated for Bugs	7
No. of premises treated for Ants	34
No. of premises treated for Wasps	72
No. of premises treated for Beetles etc.	34

10 Summary of General Inspections and Administrative Duties

Housing

Visits to houses, Housing Act, 1957	529
Visits to Premises, Public Health Act, 1936	286

Overcrowding (not including houses in Multiple Occupation)

Visits	22
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Infectious Diseases

Investigations undertaken	172
Specimens submitted to Public Health Laboratory	272

Verminous Conditions and Insect pests

Visits	162
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Drainage

Drains tested or inspected	286
Revisits during repairs or reconstruction	94
Block drains cleared	555

Visits to

Houses in Multiple Occupation	610
Moveable Dwellings, Caravans, etc.	12
Public Houses	23
Clubs	20
Restaurants	260
Slaughterhouses	637
Works Canteens	14
School Canteens	21
Other Shops and Premises where Food is Prepared, stored or exposed for sale	1,482
Bakehouses	26
Places of Entertainment	22
Factories with mechanical power	29
Factories without mechanical power	14
Visits reference complaint or nuisances discovered	474
Miscellaneous visits	794
Unsuccessful visits	1,181

Food and Drugs

Samples submitted to Public Analyst	
Milk	66
Other Food and Drugs	122

Food Complaints

No. of Complaints	83
No. of Interviews	177

Samples examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service

Milk	307
Ice Cream	282

Rats and Mice Destruction		
Inspection of Premises, etc. by Public Health Inspectors	187	
Inspection of Premises, etc. by Rodent Operators	304	
Visits for treatment	152	
Rent Act		
Interviews	98	
Investigations	49	
Smoke Abatement		
Observations	32	
Interviews with managers, stokers, etc.	60	
Inspection of boiler plants	5	
Smoke Control - visits	321	
Atmospheric pollution apparatus - Recordings	739	
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act		
Visits to Offices	92	
Visits to Retail Shops	324	
Visits to Wholesale Depots & Warehouses	18	
Visits to Catering Establishments & Canteens	35	
General and Office Routine		
Visits for interviews	794	
Interviews at office	1,533	
Attendances at Magistrates' courts	23	
Noise		
Visits	102	
Diseases of Animals		
Visits to (a) Cattle Market	72	
(b) Poultry Market	58	
General Administration		
Notices served:		
	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Housing Acts	89	48
Landlord and Tenant Act	5	-
Public Health Acts	35	55
Food Hygiene Regulations	14	-
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	32	-
Clean Air Act 1956	-	2
	<u>175</u>	<u>105</u>

